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OCTOBER, 1907

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The Library Journal

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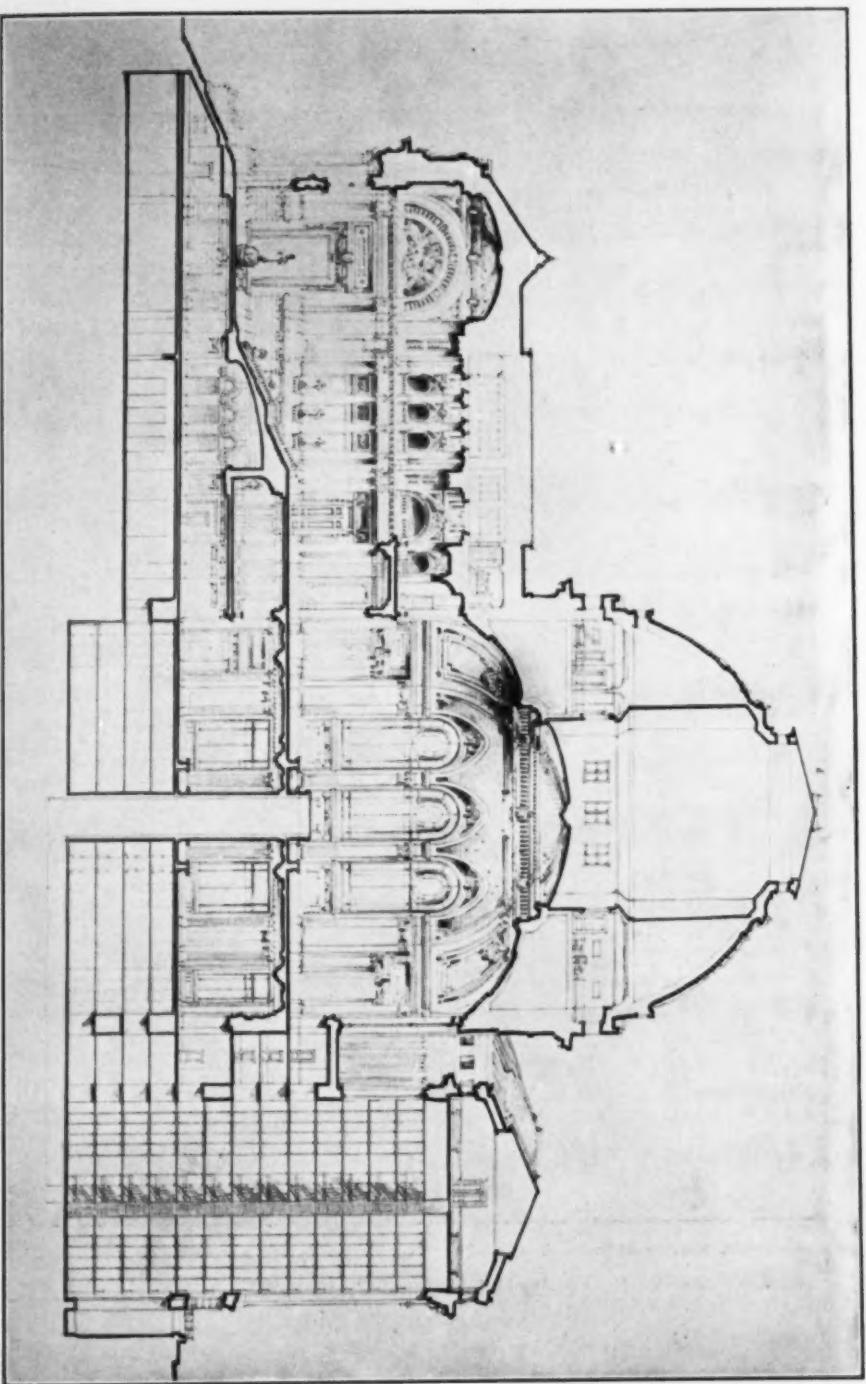
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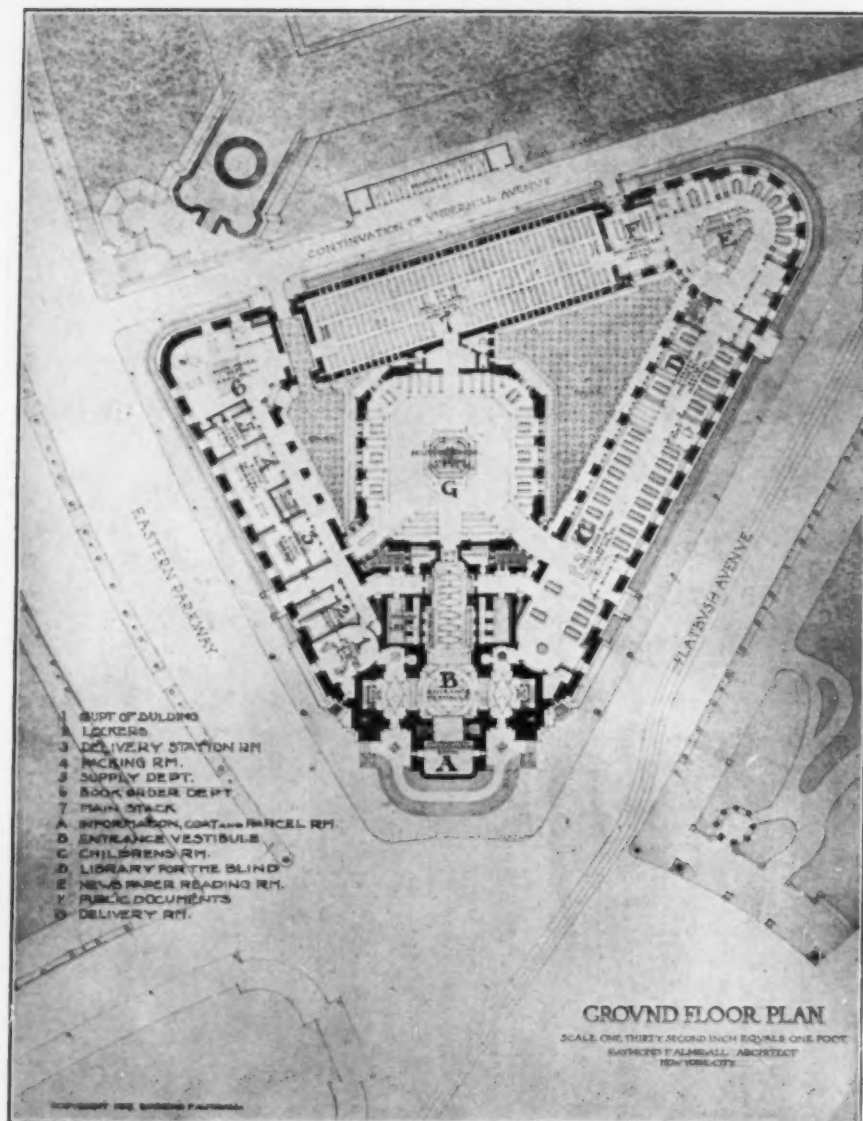
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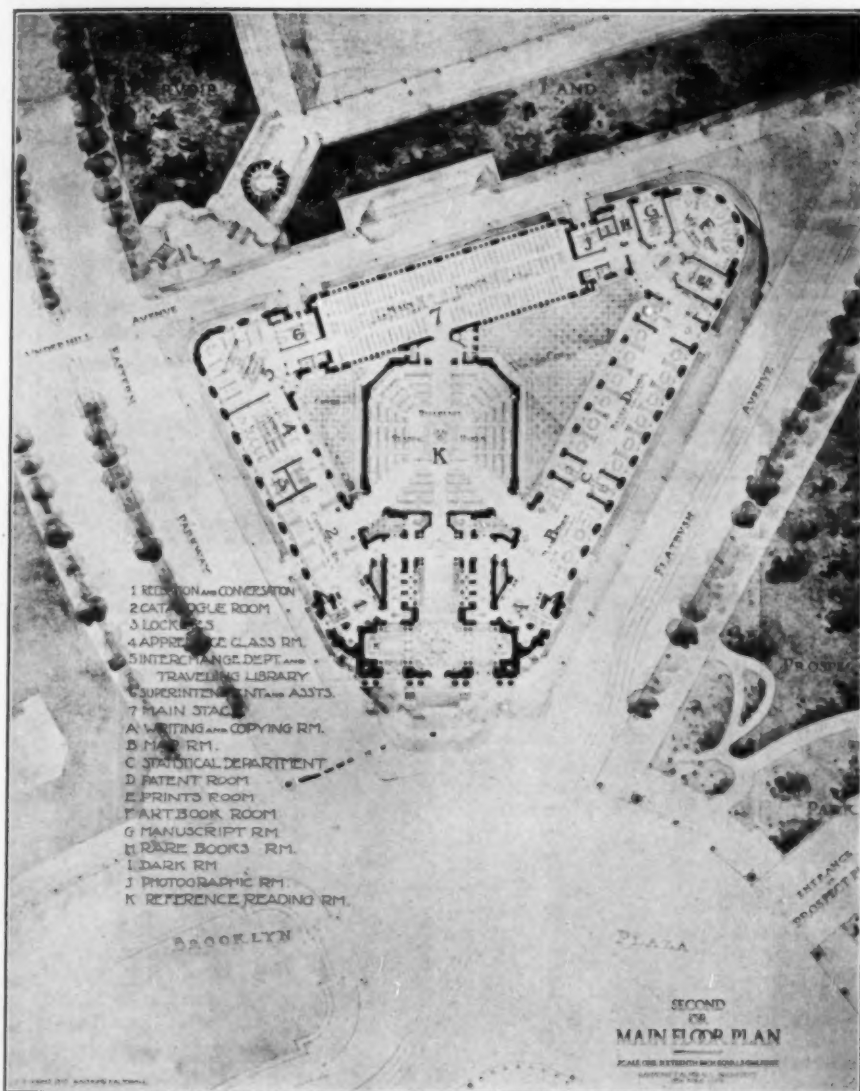
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Longitudinal section through Plaza front, central pavilion, and stack-house



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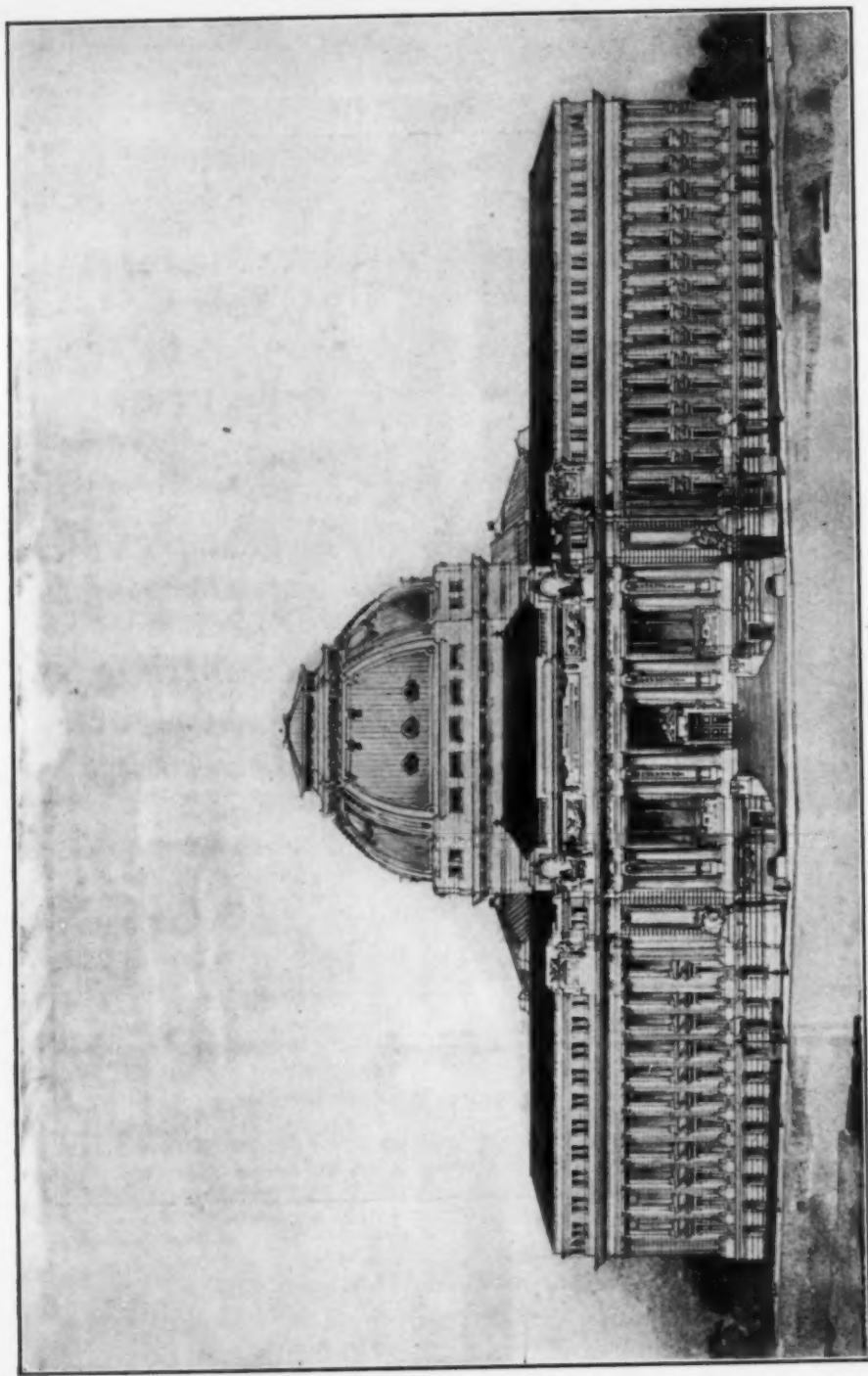
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Ground floor plan, showing delivery room



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Main floor plan, showing reference reading-room



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Plaza front, with wings foreshortened

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

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No. 10

THE complex nature of our American government, federal, state, and local, with its possibilities of duplication and waste of effort, is more or less reflected in all lines of organized work in this country. Professional organization in the library field has its national association, its state associations, and its local clubs, and a strong reason for the opposition to such further developments as that of the proposed Southern library association is the fear that this complexity would be still further complicated and the considerable number of meetings further increased. The "Library week" of the New York Library Association in the fall, and the Atlantic City meeting of the New Jersey and Pennsylvania state associations in the spring continue to afford useful opportunity for interstate gatherings and A. L. A. board meetings, without the formality of interstate organizations, and probably there will be similar future development in the middle West, on the Pacific coast, and in the South. The recent New York meeting, though in a remote part of the Catskills, brought together over 150 library people and proved anew that library enthusiasm in attendance on meetings cannot be downed. That there was much "free time" instead of an elaborate and crowded program, probably made the meeting not less effective from the working point of view, because this afforded so much better opportunity for the personal consultation and comparing of notes which is so practically helpful.

THE interesting and valuable statement by Mr. Anderson of the highly developed activity of the New York State Library and the affiliated department, culminating in the publication of a quarterly periodical, *New York Libraries*, of which the excellent initial number may be had for the asking, brought forth an important protest and discussion as to the relation between state and local activity. Mr. Seward, of Binghamton, pointed out frankly that the extension work of the state library not only had extended into his local field, but

was likely to discourage local support of the local library system. Travelling libraries, he pointed out, were now sent forth so freely from Albany that it was easier to send a request to the state library than to look up books in the local library. Naturally this has a boomerang effect on library development. Others bore witness that the state library had helped rather than hindered library development, even in fields where the local library was active and adequate; but there seemed to be general agreement that there was danger to local interests in the extension of state activities unless in careful co-operation with the local library. This is true probably in other states than New York. It goes without saying that extension work should be done chiefly where local library systems are lacking, and that where it is desirable to supplement local work requests for books from the state library or commission should be honored only by application through the local library. This gives the advantages without the disadvantages of centralized effort—co-operation and not duplication, or competition.

THERE is another kind of duplication which also invites waste of effort, in the fact that the library system should reach the schools and that the school system should have libraries. It is the tendency of an executive organizer to make his system complete in itself, sometimes with the result exemplified in Brooklyn, N. Y., where the remarkable system of lectures organized by Professor Hooper through the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences now meets the competition of Dr. Leipziger's system of free lectures under the auspices of the board of education. There ought to be thorough co-operation, but never wasteful competition, between the librarian and the teacher, the library and the school. It is less important whether the library system furnishes books for the school-houses or a board of education supplies school libraries of its own, than that there should be thorough and friendly understand-

ing and mutual co-ordination throughout the school and the library machinery to the best purpose in the handling of books for the young. The story hour, for instance, is on the borderline between library work and kindergarten or primary work, and the children's librarian should be the complement but not the competitor of the kindergartner.

THE needed understanding can be had only when the teacher is alert to the best use of books and to library methods. This makes library instruction in normal schools of the utmost importance, as was pointed out at the Catskill meeting. A well-equipped teacher must know what are the best books for the young and how to make best use of them — and this does not come by intuition but by training. It is true that all sorts of subjects are now pressing for recognition in normal schools — sewing, manual training, agriculture; it is also true that there are no more hours in the day than there used to be. But training in the use of books is a time-saving method rather than a new subject, and as such it should be considered in planning the normal school curriculum. This is recognized by many educational authorities, but has yet to be worked out in most of the states. Perhaps the most important development of the next decade may be, now that the library world has appreciated the importance of the children's world, that the teacher will be trained to the benefits of the library point of view in introducing the child into the world of books.

THE way of the benefactor is hard — as Mr. Andrew Carnegie has had abundant opportunity to learn. An English critic, whose article we reprint elsewhere, gives expression to views in which he is not alone. His article has special reference to English conditions, but is not without pertinence in America. The pith of the criticism may be said to be that a library building is not a library; that it is often difficult for a rural community to provide for the books, and still more for the cost of proper administration. There are doubtless many cases where it has been difficult to equip and maintain a library adequate to the building which Mr. Carnegie has given. Of course, self-help is best of all, and the final rejection

by Detroit of the Carnegie offer calls attention anew to the wholesome fact that it is better for a man to do for himself, or a community for itself, than to have things done for him or for it. Mr. Carnegie's splendid and welcome benefactions have been of enormous usefulness; and yet it is still better that a community should build for itself, or be the recipient of beneficence from its own citizens. Happily, Mr. Carnegie's world-wide and good-natured beneficence is not dampened by any rejection of his offers, and probably he himself would be the first to agree with the view here expressed. It is not less desirable that a library should be independent in the matter of books. An English publisher, in a communication which we print elsewhere, protests against the habit of book-begging by small libraries which is not unknown in this country. On the other hand, how welcome and significant is such a gift, showing the spirit of appreciation of the local community, as the ten dollars contributed by Japanese workmen to the library at Greeley, Colorado. This is indeed the widow's mite, which counts for more than princely benefactions.

THE municipal trend of including a public library as an integral part of the communal system is daily more evident; and we print this month several articles which bear especially upon the question of municipal ownership and maintenance of libraries. It is sometimes suggested by critics of the extension of municipal functions that free libraries like free music in the public parks, and indeed the public parks themselves, are practical applications of socialism. But this theoretical objection has been pretty well swept aside as a practical consideration. The first thing that a village community provides for itself as it develops into a municipality is a supply of pure water, in response to one of the first physical needs; and it is an easy analogy to compare with this the provision of schools and libraries as among the first intellectual needs of the people. One of the strongest arguments for municipal libraries from the merely economic point of view is that brought out in recent English discussion, that libraries, like schools, save the taxpayer money which otherwise he might be spending on asylums and jails.

ON THE SELECTION OF BOOKS FOR CHILDREN

By GRACE THOMPSON, *New Utrecht Branch of the Brooklyn Public Library*

As Mrs. Ruggles said to the children, "You can pick up the paper any time" and find criticism of children's libraries and of libraries in general. Constructive criticism that is definite and detailed is welcome, for libraries do make mistakes and do leave room for improvement in their policies. But criticism of the children's library movement as a whole, in its value to the community by a member of the profession, ought certainly to cause a mild degree of surprise and wonder. Yet such criticism has been made in this way; the right of selection is and has often been called into question. Now a question of the right of selection is a question of the value of the children's room; for the children's library means a selection of books for children, and a selection of children's books put in a room or place where children can come at them.

Criticism often takes the form of a demand for freedom and breadth. It is implied that these qualities are in abeyance in the average selection of children's books. On examination you would find that this means breadth along one line, freedom according to individual preference. These people quote glibly Lamb's time-worn advice to turn a child loose, etc. They never stop to consider that the child Lamb was referring to was turned loose among the old English dramatists. Selection, you see, of a very high kind. We have in these days to cope with many kinds of libraries and many other kinds of books. No one, I think, would advise us to turn a child loose in modern decadent drama. Back we come then to the principle of selection. Selection is, in fact, involved in the very idea of a children's room. If you admit that there are good and bad books, just as there are good and bad people, you must admit that if you have a children's room at all it is to call attention to the good books and to ignore the bad ones.

There are, theoretically, many reasons why we should encourage children to be friends with everybody and to be afraid of nothing, yet if you saw some child you loved forming

an intimacy with a thief, you would do your best to snatch the child away.

There are books which are thieves in that they take away something which really belongs to childhood—happiness, light-heartedness, carelessness. But there are many more books which steal the child's time and leave nothing in return. These are the books in series mostly, which tell about every spring or summer or autumn or winter that Betty or Patty or the Little Colonel ever spent, and of how every general had a young lieutenant, or a scout, or aide-de-camp who knew far more than the general. It is in this way that the famous Alger books sin against the children. There are still people who uphold the Alger books as creating a reading habit. In genuine experience they create only an Alger reading habit. But worse than this is their effect to rob childhood of its joyousness because they are written from the standpoint of the shallow philosophy of material success. Their boys and girls are really business men and women. Any manhood which they would inspire would be of the Richard Croker type, and surely we need not replenish that line of civic development. Boys and girls, particularly boys and girls in our cities, do often have to be business men and women. Let them learn wisdom in these lines from experience. When they come to the library let them find that life is not all business, some of it is pure enjoyment. What child needs to read of happy childhood or of fairyland more than the elder brothers and the little mothers?

"Have you anything on Princesses," says the ragged dirty little girl. "Of course we have," says the children's librarian, and forth goes little Cinderella to live an hour at least in comfort and elegance and beauty.

But just as surely as there are poor books to reject there are also good books to select, and fortunately many more. Thus, the idea of selection is involved in the idea of a children's room, because the library is, or is going to be a part of the educational system. Contact with good books is a very large part of

education and indispensable to culture. The children's room is the place where this education by contact with the great minds and brave hearts of the past and the present, is ready for the boys and girls. When we see the books in this light, we see clearly that they must be good books or not be educational. If the shelves in the children's room are filled up with Barbour and Ray then the children are missing something. I remember hearing Mr. Carnegie say once that the titles of the books ought to cheer up the busy librarian even if he did not have time to read. It is certainly good for the children to see book after book, and title after title, day after day, even if they never read them all.

A third reason for the selection of books for children is involved in the rights of children. This, too, is on the constructive side of selection. The children have as a part of the community a right to a part of the library. The public library is in duty bound to provide every child in the community with the chance to know and love the best books. There are certain books which belong to children so intimately that they seem to have missed their purpose, to lie fallow, unless used by them. Romance, chivalry, poetry, all those biographies and adventures which stir the blood; all those books which influence character at an impressionable age, those ought to always be in sight of the children.

Every student, every casual reader, almost, of biography knows that books have an influence on character, and often a direct and logical influence. The statesmen and poets of the last generation, for example, seem one and all to have fed on "Plutarch's Lives" and the "Arabian nights." Here is selection surely; they had to read their fathers' books or the neighbors' books or read not at all. Now it is to be hoped that in the next generation there are to be a few statesmen and even a few poets. If there were not so many of these otherwise innocuous children's stories multiplying on the shelves perhaps there might be more of these leaders in 1930.

But there is a more direct influence. A woman told a librarian recently that when her two healthy boys got noisy and troublesome she sent them over to the library and they always came home gentle and quiet and happy.

That is a very direct influence of books and a very true one. Lost for an hour or so in some absorbing adventure or heroic escape the boys came back to earth less fussy, and found little things too small to worry about. That may sound to the critic like soothing syrup, but to the lover of books it is a very real experience. Don't you know yourself how when you are tired you can rest yourself in a good book? It may be only a magazine story or a light essay, or it may be only a sentence you need to tone up your moral courage.

If, then, the books for the children are to be selected, on what basis shall we proceed? Books are books, and should be judged as such first. Just as in choosing a picture, you inquire first whether it is a good picture, not whether it is interesting or instructive or moral; so a book to gain a place even on the children's shelves should be first of all good literature. And perhaps last of all, for if a book is good literature, nothing more is to be desired. It has everything desirable in being good literature. Professor Hunt in his late book defined literature as the "best thought of the age expressed in the best form." Surely the best thought is moral enough. It is something more than moral; it is inspirational. There is a sense in which literature is life, and life is more than morals.

There has been a tendency to be afraid of the best literature for children. There has been an attitude of condescension almost in regarding the best as for the exceptional child and the next best for the average child. Low be it spoken, the children have been classified according to their environment. Stepping stones have been provided for the children who "are not used to books." Such a heresy is a piece of literary snobbishness which betrays a lack of literary appreciation or a lack of understanding of the democracy which is the root of literature.

Such an attitude savors of the settlement worker who is surprised to find people like herself in the ghetto, instead of rejoicing to discover that she is like other people.

To measure a child's taste for literature by his circumstances is a short-sighted policy, and surely an uninspiring one. How any development or any individuality would accrue is impossible to imagine. Selection here is

carried too far and is too select. For a child in poor circumstances to read only books of poor literary character and of narrow interests is a contradiction of the meaning of American libraries. Books of poor quality are used by some libraries as productive of the reading habit. But the reading habit does not have to be acquired any more. Children are taught to read and learn to like to read in the schools. The library is to mold and direct that habit and not to create it. And nothing will direct it more surely and permanently than one good book. Suppose, for example, the little John Keats, whose father kept a livery stable or hostelry had been restricted to the literature of the stableman, or that when he went to school at Enfield Mr. Clark had excluded him from his library of mythology and poetry because they were beyond his appreciation. That imaginative genius which opens for us windows on "fairy lands forlorn," and travels with us "in the realms of gold" would have been lost.

It is wise to set a high standard of literary value for the sake of the reputation of the library and of the librarian. Libraries will, if carefully chosen, grow more and more to be the literary centers and referenda of their neighborhood. The present stage is that of organization; the next will be that of influence. In such event, a certain authority attaches to every book on the shelves. There should never be anything on the shelves for which we must apologize or be ashamed of. We never want to say "Oh! that just slipped in."

Setting a literary standard does not mean restriction in quantity. There are hundreds of books which are classics that you can remember as your eyes travel round the room. The critic who says Tom Bailey is the only real boy we have left would do well to broaden his acquaintance by a journey round the children's room. Next to Tom Bailey stands a little Italian school-boy, with a heart of gold and the human failings of the American schoolboy. Between Cuore and the despised Lord Fauntleroy (who was after all polite) is Lem, a New England village boy, with exploits that are hardly original yet full of interest and excitement. Next almost to Tom Sawyer, or where he ought to be, are the Prince and the Pauper,

who certainly prove that it isn't necessary to live in the Mississippi valley to be real or to have adventures. As I remember, it was a boyish prank which got them into trouble and boyish courage which got them out of it.

William Henry was a very real boy; so was Hans Brinker, although of a very different kind, while the Hoosier Schoolboy and, more particularly, his associates, are creations acknowledgedly. Truly all these are boys, and we have only gone so far as E in fiction. Were it not too tiresome we could go on and tell of other boys, down to Widow O'Callahan's boys in Z. There are real girls, too, who can be singled out from the fluffy ruffly kinds by dozens, and there are girls with character and spirit, from Alice, with her sense of humor, to Rebecca, with her ways and rhymes.

In fact there is so much that is good literature that it hardly seems necessary to include anything else. The time is so short, why waste it and the city's money by having anything else? If a boy or girl uses the children's room for three or four years and has had by that time no glimpse of the meaning and joy of literature, he might almost as well have never come.

Instead of narrowing the selection a high standard of literature broadens the collection when looked at in the right way. Whenever we find a book which is literature and has interest for children we may give it to them. By disregarding the arbitrary black J or red J or C, or whatever is used, how many wants could be supplied, how many little gaps filled up in the children's room! How many are really started on the pleasures of reading by coming on the right book in the children's room! The children's room, and indeed the library itself, is a failure unless this knowledge of and acquaintance with books is developed by its use.

The average city boy or girl goes to work at sixteen years, and the inclination or the inspiration to read must come from the library before that time, or come not at all. If juvenile fiction, however innocuous, has been their only reading they will drop to the daily papers to and from work and remain in ignorance of the feast they have lost. They must get something row that will open their eyes to the storehouse of literature or they will miss it altogether. They must learn now

by experience the power of a good book, the joy of companionship with another mind, the recuperation of sharing another's attitude; in other words, the breadth of literature, or they will never learn it.

There is no harm in a boy's liking Indian stories or stories of the sea; there is no harm in a girl's liking boarding-school stories or love stories like "Little women," but there is harm in their never getting beyond these books, to real and genuine literature. Most of all is there harm if they never find out there is anything beyond these books.

It is just here that the librarian's responsibility comes in. It is her duty and privilege to lead the boys and girls from these books to an intelligent interest in better books. With the pronounced likes and dislikes developed by children's books she must lead the children to the sources and fountains of literature, the great books. The easiest and simplest way to accomplish this is to have the books on the shelves in the children's room. It is then not necessary to wait for a certain age limit or a certain card for the children to become acquainted with Scott and Dickens and Kingsley and Stevenson. By having these standard books duplicated in the children's room, every opportunity for guidance can be made the most of and entire dependence on the adult shelves be avoided. There are not too many duplicates until the books of this kind are always "in." The ideal library for young people would be one beginning with "Pride and prejudice" and going through to "Vanity Fair," in which one copy of everything worth while would be "in." Now this is not often the case with the adult collection. Despite the consumption of light fiction there is a constant demand for these old substantial novels and romances in the adult department. If the children are to read and know them they should be supplied for them. There are many discouragements in library work; none equal to that when a boy or girl reaches the day and hour when he voluntarily asks for "David Copperfield;" with high hopes you rush to the shelf and the nearest approach to realization is the third volume of "Little Dorrit." Sick and disheartened you fall desperately on the "Adventures of Sherlock Holmes," and the moment is gone. Or perhaps it is a girl who has been reading "Babette," "Have you any

other sad story of a little girl?" You tell her a little about "Old curiosity shop" and she evidently likes the foretaste. Forgetting the chronic state of Dickens you rush again to the shelf to find it empty. Resisting a mad impulse to bestow on her the "English woman's love letters" you hurry her back to the children's room and "Ten girls from Dickens."

Where there is no doubt of the value of a book there should be no question of its purchase. Cooper, Dickens, Kipling, Kingsley, these and such as these should stand always on the shelf in the children's room for the wary and unwary browser, for the consolation of the librarian, but most of all for the boys and girls who are to drop out or go forward this year.

After all is not the best better than the second best? Is it not better to have ten copies of "Ivanhoe" than one each of Barbour, Dunn, Finley, Henty, Lothrop, Lillie, Munroe, Stoddard, Trowbridge? Ten copies of "Ivanhoe" means ten opportunities made the most of and at least one young reader awakened to the beauties of chivalry, romance and history. Criticism will come, of course. But there is always criticism; it is only a question of which kind you prefer. It is better to be scolded for the absence of Alger than to be judged for a scant supply of Longfellow's poems.

By supplying the best for the boys and girls the librarian more than anyone else is solving concretely the problem of light fiction. What is best is what is also greatest in power and influence. Such is the power of the good and great in literature, as in life, that real acquaintance with greatness makes substitutes pall on the taste. Sometimes I think we forget what we all believe in, the power of a good book. The boy or girl who reads a dozen or so good books can never be led astray by light fiction. Consciously or unconsciously he has found thereby a literary standard of his own. It is not necessary even for us to aid him with such a foundation. For has he not as much as we have? He has read and known the best and other books will fall into their natural places. Light fiction will seem to him secondary and unimportant. He may read it, but always with the consciousness that it is different and inferior. He will read it with pleas-

ure only as it approaches in quality the good books he has read.

All this deals only with stories; there is another side to the children's room equally important and equally enjoyable. Mythology and folklore, fables and fairy tales, poetry and romance, travel and adventure, are not all these the birth-right of children? And if there are children among us who like to read about birds and animals and electricity instead, let us admit that there are as many kinds of children as there are of grown people, and let us be glad that in the library children can find books written for them about almost everything. In selecting these books of more technical nature, those in the sciences, for example, one should be sure that the facts are plain and unobscured and yet told in an interesting manner. And also be sure that facts are not sacrificed to interest or vice-versa. If it is imagination one seeks, give the child the "Jungle book;" if it is observation, give him "Birds and bees."

In the main the collections of poetry are the best books on our shelves. It is not necessary to remind you that our own poet, Whittier, thought it worth his while to make a collection of verse for children and, although it contains many verses of only temporary value and popularity, it still seems to be peculiarly adapted to the children, for whom after all it was made. It is surely an enviable task to lead the children through the fair fields of poesy, and many have essayed it; Lang and Henley in England, Mrs. Wiggin and Mary Burt in our country. But, perhaps, the best work of all has been done by Agnes Repplier, that sympathetic and scholarly critic. More than any other this contains the children's favorites and appeals to them.

But having the best collections ought not to exclude us from having also the best poets complete. Longfellow and Whittier and Tennyson, Scott and Wordsworth ought to be a part of the children's room. For even if they do not read all the poems the children may grasp some of the vastness and extent of poetry and how much it has in store for them—unless you think the love of poetry emasculates and do not approve of it for boys. Some one seriously proposed in a library meeting once that poetry was not healthy. Think,

please, of how many unhealthy boys we must have! But opinions differ. A little friend of mine who has devoured Tennyson and Homer, by proxy, has always been esteemed the best playmate in the neighborhood, because "he thinks of so many things to play with fighting in them."

Chivalry and romance par-excellence should be the daily fare of the twentieth century child. Such books only will raise him free from the materialism and mechanism of the age and of the literature of the age. The other day I found on certain library shelves the "Laboratory method of literature," and the "Text-book of morals." What, may I ask, are we coming to? Can you imagine anything more ludicrous than in every moral crisis running to a receipt book to get out of it; and anything more depressing than dissecting Shelley's Ode to the West Wind? Nothing will take the children back to spontaneity and naturalness quicker than Malory and Spenser and Froissart and Homer and Virgil. Ideals are still worth striving for there, and ladies are fair, and swords are keen, and the heroes are human. And the closer these stories are to the original, the more atmosphere, the farther away from our present realism, the better for the children. Ulysses is much more human and simple and broad than the heroes of the day. The simple account of his shipwreck held one crowd of restless boys quiet one evening last winter. Children are not frightened away by the thought that this is a classic. The poorest and dirtiest boy in the district will not be frightened away from Robinson Crusoe. He loves the sea and to make things and he loves Robinson Crusoe because it is of the sea.

A library of good books does not necessarily mean a small circulation. A hundred years ago, there were no children's books properly speaking. But the children read. There were fewer books, but no less devotion to literature. Children have not changed much. What appealed to them in the "Arabian nights" was the imaginative quality, and what they liked in Plutarch was the derring-do of the heroes. They still like those things. Don't let us teach them to be afraid of the best. It is still possible for a boy to be perfectly honest and to like "Plutarch's Lives."

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY AS A PART OF THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT *

By SAMUEL H. RANCK, *Librarian Grand Rapids (Mich.) Public Library*

At a library meeting held in connection with an organization such as the League of Michigan Municipalities it is appropriate to consider the library in its relation to the other departments of the city government. We have long been considering the public library and its functions with reference to the public, but it seems to me we might profitably give more attention to its relation with the administrative life of the city. In other words, we may well consider the functions of the library as a department of the city government itself.

It is within the memory of almost the youngest person here, when the average city father looked upon the public library as more or less of a fad, something that was all right for women, children, and leisurely men who had retired or who were being supported by the wages of their children or by the efforts of their wives in running a boarding house. That the library could be of direct service to many of our citizens in their business affairs, and also to the city itself in its business affairs, was hardly dreamed of, and even now is perhaps not fully recognized.

The library as a bureau of exact information for the general public (in addition to its other functions) ought to be no less a bureau of exact information for all those who are connected with the city government. Problems relating to municipal affairs are being studied in this country and in Europe as they were never studied before, and there is being given to this subject the attention and thought of some of the world's best minds. The community owes it to itself that those who are responsible for the management of its local affairs, its aldermen and its various city officers in all departments, should keep in touch with the best thought and investigation that is being worked out in what might be termed the municipal laboratories of the country, for every city government, willingly or unwillingly, is a laboratory, demonstrating not only to that community but to all persons who care to find out, how city affairs ought or ought not to be managed.

* Address as President of the Michigan Library Association at annual meeting at Detroit, June 7, 1907.

The public library, as a municipal institution, ought to endeavor to gather together a good working collection of primary and secondary printed sources of information relating to these subjects, and so far as possible make it available to those who are responsible for the management of our city affairs. Furthermore, it ought to encourage in every possible way the use of such books on the part of the citizens generally.

The gathering of first hand sources, reports, etc., is no easy matter, however, and it will be discovered by those who attempt it that it requires much time and effort to get together even a passable collection relating to municipal administration as it is actually carried out. It will also be discovered that the library will have to overcome a good deal of prejudice on the part of municipal authorities who have little or no use for information which may be gained in print; in other words, of those who have a large share of contempt for what they term "book knowledge," which some are likely to sneer at as theoretical and impracticable. That things in print are often impractical is of course true; but one must weigh every new idea, whatever its source, to test its practicability.

Within the last few years the Public Library of Grand Rapids has been making an effort to gather a collection of municipal documents, the reports, charters, and ordinances of a large number of American cities, in the belief that such a collection would contain a considerable amount of information that would be valuable to those who are studying municipal problems, even though it was mixed up with a large amount of worthless material. The charters and ordinances especially crystallize the public sentiment of certain communities with reference to a large number of municipal problems and to that extent they are suggestive, at least, to the student and the practical administrator. On the other hand, reports that are intelligently written (and many of them are) on the part of city engineers, water works departments, park boards, etc., are mines of first hand information of the greatest value.

The collection of documents in Grand Rapids is an outgrowth of a system of ex-

change, the library by resolution of the common council handling all the exchanges of such documents with other cities. The collection is being built up, therefore, wholly on the basis of barter. Thus far this collection has not gone far enough to be in any sense exhaustive, but a limited number of persons have found it to be of use and value, those using the collection generally going through all the volumes in it with reference to the particular kind of information they are seeking. With the development of such a collection in the library, the library ultimately ought to be in a position to do considerable amount of what is termed at some of our state capitols as "legislative reference work" for all departments of the city government. Permit me to remark, by way of parenthesis, that the "legislative reference" departments recently organized in several of our states are largely a conscious effort to return to the purpose for which state libraries were originally created, but which in most of our states have long since been lost sight of by regarding the library as a piece of political plunder. No one can doubt that if such reference work were done intelligently on the part of the city's library that it would be the means of enabling those in authority to deal with a large number of municipal problems in a much more intelligent way.

The crying shame of municipal government in the United States has been, and in many cities still is, that our cities are making the same mistakes over and over and over again, largely because of a lack of definite information and knowledge on the part of those in authority, and on the part of the general public, in regard to the successes and failures of other communities in the same line. Cities ought to profit by the failures of other cities no less than by their successes, and the public library of all the city departments is in a better position to place such information directly in the hands of those most concerned than any other department. I would plead,

therefore, that every library endeavor to be of greater service in this direction to those who are responsible for the administration of local affairs. It will require years to be able to do the best work along this line. First of all, in many cases it will be necessary to eliminate a certain amount of prejudice against information derived from books. Secondly, it will require some time for the library to marshal the facts in its possession and to learn how to make them available to the best advantage of those using them. Every library, however, owes it to itself and to its community to do more in this direction than it has been doing.

In this connection it should be remembered also that the library is in the best position of any department of the municipal government to preserve the annual reports and all printed matter relating to the city and issued by it. If it has a fire-proof building or a vault it should ultimately become the custodian of the city's archives. In relation with this phase of its relation with the city government the library might well have charge of the technical work in connection with the indexing and binding of the city's annual reports and similar documents. In most of our cities the library is in a position to do this work better than any other department, for some of the members of the library staff are specially trained in such work, and have long tenures of office, all of which tends to insure uniformity and skill in methods and results. The manner in which the reports of some of our cities are gotten out reflects anything but credit upon the city. As a result such reports are often almost worthless so far as serviceable use of them is concerned.

In conclusion, my one plea is that so far as possible the public library should put itself in a position where it can be, as I believe it ought to be, of direct, positive service to those responsible for the administration of city affairs, and thus make itself a vital force in the city's administrative life.

AMHERST COLLEGE LIBRARY

It seems the heart of that green college town,
'Mid those green hills and near the fair green river;
And in its peaceful alcoves one might drown
All memory of the weary world forever.

—JOHN RUSSELL HAYES.

PICTURE BULLETINS PRACTICALLY APPLIED—NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL

THE practice work in picture bulletins by the junior class of the New York State Library School took a form this year that it is hoped may make them useful to other libraries.

Each member of the class was asked to choose a subject of sufficient importance to justify the effort expended, then to give reasons for the choice and plan the way in which it should be treated to produce the most effective results. The method chosen might make use of pictures in a bulletin or simply as posters to call attention to a group of books. The treatment might be extended into an exhibit, or no pictures need be used at all, if newspaper articles would be more effective. The problem and its effective solution was of first importance. The picture bulletin was considered only as one of the means to this end. The student could imagine herself in any library she liked, but, given the conditions of that library, the purpose of the topic must justify the time spent upon it. If the topic chosen could be used annually, more time might legitimately be spent than if the subject were of only current interest.

If a picture bulletin were decided upon, the use of pictures should be only as a means to an end. Either the picture or the heading of the bulletin must be effective and attractive from a distance—must partake of the qualities of a poster—to draw the reader nearer. The bulletin should therefore combine unity of idea with simplicity of line, harmony of color, interesting spacing, and effective arrangement. The bulletin should lead to the book in some way—by a short, carefully selected list of books that justified the effort made to call attention to them; by quotations from the books to tempt the reader, or by notes about the books to win the same result. The books listed should always be placed near the bulletin to overcome the inertia of the general reading public.

When this much effort had been made in behalf of a topic it was suggested that the result might be doubled if the attention of a larger public than visited the library be called to it, by printing an article, giving the list in the local newspaper. Every bulletin therefore has its newspaper article written to be lent with it.

These picture bulletins all have a stiff background of cardboard, but in practical library work the pictures and lists might, instead, be placed with equal care in arrangement upon a permanent bulletin board, and so be also available for other uses.

The list of picture bulletins that are ready to be lent to other libraries follows:
Jamestown Exposition, with pen and ink sketch of the old tower at Jamestown.
Life in the United States Navy.

Chosen to be used in an inland town, where interest and knowledge of the life in the navy is lacking.

Blennerhassett Island.

Photograph of it, with list of articles about it and the Aaron Burr conspiracy. Chosen to arouse interest in local history in towns near this island in the Ohio River.

Stories about cats.

Chosen to win for domestic pets some of the sympathy that stories of wild animals have aroused in children.

Child stories for grown-ups.

Chosen to help the "Olympians" to understand children.

Bed-time stories.

Suggestive list for mothers.

Gardening.

To be used in a rural community in the early spring.

George Meredith.

Richard Jefferies.

Well-planned bulletins to increase the reading of these writers and the interest in them.

Dickens' funny characters.

Heroines of fiction.

Indian stories for little folks.

John Burroughs.

Russia.

Tree books.

Old California missions.

These topics explain themselves.

Accompanying each bulletin is an outline of the way it should be used, whether in the children's room or adult department. It is asked that any libraries that borrow these bulletins kindly see that this outline and the newspaper article are returned with the bulletin.

The problems that were not treated as picture bulletins are not so useful for borrowing, yet many of the ideas were excellent and well planned. The method for arousing an interest in the geology of Vermont, to be used in a Vermont library, should be mentioned. This was to be developed into an exhibit of specimens, maps, etc.

The problem of interesting a town in a park system was treated by another student.

A third wrote a series of newspaper articles to persuade a town to accept a library building from Mr. Carnegie.

Among other excellent outlines was one for a series of sets of pictures taking up the great revolutions of history. The treatment of the French Revolution was worked out as an example. The purpose was to interest children in foreign history and to give them an insight into the struggle for freedom that these revolutions expressed.

Many of these outlines could be borrowed and the idea carried out with successful results, I believe.

FRANCES L. RATHBONE,
Librarian East Orange (N. J.) Public Library.

A. L. A. SUBJECT HEADINGS

In the January number of this journal there appeared a series of questions intended to draw out opinions from active catalogers on the scope and character of the forthcoming edition of A. L. A. subject headings. The answers indicate very clearly that the catalogers want all they can get in scope without advance in price. This practically calls for a list which shall serve somewhat as a checklist as well as a guide. There is also a decided expression in favor of eliminating all appendix material and embodying its contents in the main list with one typical illustration and cross-references, explanatory matter to appear in an introduction. The detailed suggestions would fill all the space allowed for this article; but it is more profitable to use the opportunity for securing information on certain marked tendencies toward needed changes not often noted or heeded by catalogers.

The editor has felt deeply the need of basing this third edition upon the experiences of thoughtful loan and reference workers who have tried to satisfy the calls of readers with the catalogs constructed upon the usages of the past 20 years. The time has been long enough and the card catalogs have become sufficiently permanent and widespread in use to furnish a body of testimony as to how well the old codes are working at the points of contact with the reader.

Wherever possible, therefore, the editor has made a special effort during the months spent in copying annotations to arrange also for daily conferences with the heads of loan and reference departments and with heads of branch libraries, gathering their testimony as to how the readers phrase their questions and where they instinctively look in the catalog, the purposes for which they use their material, the extent to which the specialist or bibliographically-trained person figures in the daily constituency, and the adequacy of existing headings for present needs. In all cases definite subject headings have been chosen around which to gather this testimony and thereby secure a basis for the generalizations which follow. Some of the tendencies—tidal drifts—which appear as the result of these conferences with those who meet the people are:

1. That the average adult intelligent American who patronizes the public library thinks of the subject first and its application to particular place second, except in certain lines which are inseparable from the place in significance and concerning which information is never desired for comparative study; *e.g.* Railroads—*U. S.*; but *U. S.*—*History*. This confirms the principle laid down by the A. L. A. committee in 1893, but not exemplified in the previous editions of subject headings.

2. That this same public takes our own country's name for granted and almost uniformly thinks of and looks for the particular

department or bureau directly under that department's or bureau's name, *e.g.*, Agricultural dept.—*U. S.* But in the case of foreign countries the country is thought of first (*e.g.*, France—*Chamber of deputies*), except the English Parliament, which is thought of as Parliament—*England*.

3. That the reader practically never distinguishes between a country, state or city used as author and the same used as subject or as title, and that his needs will be vastly better served by bringing all three into one file and constructing the headings, whether author, subject or title, to facilitate that arrangement.

4. That the reader really does in the main have specific and definite wants, though he (most often she) frequently tries to obscure them in his questions. That, on the whole, the catalog will do well to make its entries as specific as the reader's wants are. In vocabulary the reader is generally governed by the extent to which the newspapers, the magazines and his associates use the generic for the specific term, *e.g.*, a majority of readers will call for Insurance and look for it in the catalog when they really want Life insurance. Here it would be more useful to collect all phases as subdivisions of Insurance than to scatter them through the alphabet under Life, Fire, Accident, etc. The one possible exception is Workingmen's insurance. On the other hand, Wireless telegraphy, Reinforced concrete, etc., are terms called for, looked for, and thought of as entities in themselves with but little regard to the generic terms Telegraphy or Concrete. Such information is better kept under the specific terms. The principle is reducible to this: How closely does the reader actually classify the subject in his own thought (but not necessarily his language) to cover his own needs? This, rather than consistency, should govern the closeness of entry in the catalog. It must rest upon what the reader really does think and not upon what you believe he ought to think, nor upon what you vaguely hope he may be brought to think if you "educate" him long enough.

5. That the reader positively refuses to be "educated" by any catalog. He doesn't want his vocabulary increased—at least not in that forced way—and when you try, you succeed in enlarging it only along the line of profanity. But he does want vital information—the spirit which quickeneth, not the letter which killeth—and the more quickly you get him to it and to exactly the right information, the more he will be likely to extend his research to related and including subjects.

6. That the classes of readers who patronize average public libraries, as a rule, are intelligent in desires and comprehensions, but untrained in methods of bibliographic research or in the use of card catalogs. Furthermore, that there is no prospect of this condition ever changing so long as the chief concern of sane and healthy-minded Americans lies out

among people and things rather than in books and dreams; nor so long as children continue to be born into the world who must be met and helped on the plane where they are—of undeveloped faculties and unexplored opportunities—be the child ten or forty years of age. These constitute the ever-flowing stream of the public library's constituency, changing in individuals but not in condition. Their wants are generally specific, confined to just one small phase of the larger subject, and they are impatient of material which does not instantly tell them just what they want to know. Any attempt at this stage to force the larger or more comparative view of the subject is an impertinence. It cannot and will not be taken in until the smaller want has been filled and the new energy generated thereby begins to crave something more comprehensive and explanatory of causes. This seems to be one of the reasons for discontent concerning subjects which are so bewildering in a card catalog by reason of their great bulk. Other reasons may be found in the lack of sufficient guides and in the tendency to file a subject with subdivisions by its punctuations rather than by its alphabetic succession of phases.

The foregoing conditions find partial remedy in such suggestions as the following (suggestions made to me with bated breath and painful misgivings lest they be thought unscholarly or lacking in dignity or traitorous to the "educational" idea, but with full acknowledgment that they represent the reader's habitual mode of thought and of search in the catalog): The removal of important wars and epoch-making eras from the country to the specific name, e.g., "American revolution" instead of "U. S.—History—Revolution;" and similar treatment for "Civil war, U. S.," "Reconstruction, U. S.," "French revolution," etc., just as is already sanctioned and practiced for the minor wars and events, leaving "See" reference cards under U. S.—History.

An analogous suggestion has met the approval of reference workers where presented—the reconstruction and simplification of language headings as follows: Composition, *English*; Grammar, *English*; Dictionaries, *English*, etc., instead of English language—Composition, English language—Grammar, etc.; but French composition, Spanish grammar, German dictionaries, etc.

Still another suggestion meets ready approval respecting the usage and needs of the mass of readers, but is accompanied with more or less fear of precedent, viz., the entry of literary forms under the form name instead of the literature's name, e.g., American literature, English literature, etc.; but Poetry, *American*; Essays, *English*; Orations, *French*; Humor and wit, *American*; Letters, *English*; Satire, *French*; Newspapers, *German* (or *Germany*); Periodicals, *Italian* (or *Italy*), etc. Still another suggestion has been made: to combine American and English forms in one inclusive heading for Poetry,

Essays, Drama, etc., but keeping the headings "American literature" and "English literature" separate.

The foregoing observations are those most important and far-reaching in tidal effects, and are given without any effort to state fully the causes as they rest in human conditions in our American democracy. Before the editor or the Advisory Committee or the Publishing Board can take definite action we must know how wide-spread these tendencies are and how permanently they enter into the constituency of the average public library of from 3000 to 100,000 volumes. The university and the specialist's library, as well as the very great central public libraries of the country, have not the same constituency or the same problems and therefore will not be affected by codes or suggestions needed for the average public library (including branch libraries in large cities).

Will those who meet the public in the libraries of the latter class kindly take the time within a month to make tests or to give the results of previous years of experience on the foregoing suggestions. If this effort to ascertain what is needed at the point of contact brings in sufficiently wide response to justify the space given in the JOURNAL, the editor hopes to submit a few more questions on definite subjects during November and December. Bear in mind that it is not valuable to learn "how we do in our library," but to know how your readers wish you would do when they tell you the truth without compliments.

The fact that these suggestions are presented is no evidence that they will be embodied in the new edition. That must rest upon whether you let us know the tendencies among the mass of your patrons. The fear of how your answer may affect the future work in your own library, or how much it may run counter to things supposed to be scholarly, or how greatly it may disturb dignity and consistency is not relevant. The new edition need not interfere in the least with catalogs already established on the past editions. Its service is primarily to the libraries just beginning or reorganizing and to those established libraries in need of help on growing subjects. The scholarly and the dignified qualities will receive their due share of attention at the right point; but this is not the time nor the place for them when they interfere with the editor's ability to get at the real facts of the case as seen and felt by the readers and those who serve them.

Especially is it desirable to hear from those librarians who are in small centers, whether village or branch libraries, provided the center is a growing one and provided the librarian is also a growing one who thinks with both head and heart. Please consider this as a personal visit to your library and a personal request for your experiences.

ESTHER CRAWFORD.

Editor A. L. A. Subject Headings,
34 Newbury st., Boston, Mass.

N. Y. CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION FOR LIBRARY ORGANIZER

An examination for library organizer is announced by the New York State Civil Service Commission for Oct. 12, as follows:

209. LIBRARY ORGANIZER, Education Department. Open to women only. Two appointments are expected at \$1200 and \$1500 respectively. The duties are "to work in the field throughout the state, encouraging the establishment of new public libraries, invigorating and helping to reorganize dormant libraries, advertising and placing travelling libraries and generally stimulating library development and the reading habit, especially among the villages, hamlets and rural communities." Training and experience in library work are essential. Candidates will not be required to appear at any place for examination but will be rated on their education, experience in library work and personal qualifications and on a paper to be written and submitted in accordance with the special instructions which will be furnished on request. Applications and submitted papers must reach the Civil Service Commission not later than October 12.

Candidates must execute application form E-10. They will not be required to appear at any place for examination but will be rated on their education, experience in library work and personal qualifications and on a paper written on *either* A or B of the following problems:

A. N. is a village of 1500 population, situated in a farming section distant from any large city. It is an old village, slow, conservative, and morbidly afraid of increased taxes. It has several churches, a town hall, a fairly good high school and several saloons. It has no public library or reading room. The state library inspector has learned from people in a neighboring village the names of a few citizens who are said to be the leading spirits of the place. By correspondence a meeting is arranged, at which about 20 people, mostly women, are gathered to hear the state library organizer speak on the question of establishing a public library for the village. In about 1500 words, write a suppositious address for this gathering.

B. Q. is a village of 2000 population, situated on a small lake and somewhat celebrated as a summer resort. A free library association was organized there in 1899 and a very small library was started dependent on the annual dues of a few members, and the proceeds of occasional entertainments. From the first it has been a weak, struggling affair, at times almost at the point of dissolution. It has almost no money to buy new books and is made up largely of gifts. Twice the people of the village have voted down by a very large majority a proposition to extend to it tax support. As it is now, it is a standing negation of the value of a public library to a community and tends to bring the library

cause into disrepute. As library organizer, you are sent for two weeks to this village to do what you can to put the library on a sound and substantial basis. In about 1500 words, state what you would do to this end.

These papers must be typewritten on paper 8 x 13 or 8 1/2 x 14 inches, signed with the candidate's name and authenticated by affidavit as her individual work. In making up the final rating the written paper will count 40 per cent., and experience, etc., 60 per cent.

Applications and other papers must reach the Civil Service Commission not later than October 12.

CHARLES S. FOWLER,
Chief Examiner.

September 12, 1907.

No. 209.

STATE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Information and instruction to candidates for library organizer:

An open competition will be held October 12, 1907, for filling two positions of library organizer in the State Education Department at salaries of \$1200 and \$1500 respectively. The competition is open only to women, who must be citizens of the United States but need not be residents of New York State. The duties are "to work in the field throughout the state, encouraging the establishment of new public libraries; invigorating and helping to reorganize dormant libraries; advertising and placing travelling libraries; and generally stimulating library development and the reading habit, especially among the villages, hamlets and rural communities of the state."

The department states the following necessary qualifications:

1. Experience and training large and broad enough to liberate from particular fads, codes or schools of training. (One just graduated from library school, without previous training would hardly do, unless a very exceptional person.)

2. Familiar knowledge of all the library aids recently produced by co-operative effort, such as aids to book selection, cataloguing, etc.

3. Knowledge of the books most useful for small libraries, in all important classes of literature.

4. Knowledge of what the various states are doing in library extension.

5. Knowledge of the library law and library history of this state, and of Regents ordinances bearing on libraries. (Details not essential at beginning, as they could easily be learned.)

6. Good personal address; ability to speak effectively, especially before small informal gatherings.

7. Knowledge of and interest in village and rural life and plain people.

8. Common sense, tact, dignity, personal culture, savoir faire, resourcefulness.

COST OF NEW YORK CITY LIBRARIES

THE following is the full text of the report submitted to Comptroller Metz by Robert B. McIntyre, of the Bureau of Municipal Investigation and Statistics, under date of May 29, 1907, on the cost of public libraries in the city of New York:

HON. HERMAN A. METZ, *Comptroller*.

SIR: Pursuant to your instructions examination has been made in the Bureau of Municipal Investigation and Statistics for the purpose of securing data indicating, approximately, the annual cost of maintenance of the city libraries, the buildings for the housing of which have been donated by Mr. Andrew Carnegie. Inquiry as to these facts having been made of representatives of the library trustees, a general history of the development of the city's free circulating library system previous to and since the Carnegie gift was furnished your examiner, and a summary of the same is submitted as follows:

It appears that in 1895 the Astor and Lenox Libraries consolidated with the Tilden Trust, forming the New York Public Library. These libraries were reference libraries. In 1896 this corporation presented an address to the mayor with a view to the better establishment of a large public library in the city of New York. Acting upon the suggestions contained in this address and after appropriate legislation was had, the city of New York entered into an agreement with the New York Public Library by which the property of the city at Bryant Park was set aside as a site for a great library building, and the city proceeded to construct the building thereon. This building is intended to house the large reference collections contained in the Astor and Lenox libraries, and was destined to become a storehouse of valuable works of reference and learned books for scholars—perhaps the greatest library in this country.

In the address referred to and throughout the latter proceedings, question arose as to the conduct of circulating libraries. There had grown up a large number of small circulating libraries, conducted by a number of corporations in the city of New York, which were supported in part by the state, in part by the city, and also by private aid. These libraries were conducted mostly in rented quarters in places inadequate for the circulation of books, and were equipped with books in large part worn out, collected as they best could be from any source, of all kinds and descriptions. The state contributed \$100 a year per library for the purchase of books under an appropriation by the state and under the authority of the state regents. The city, under the provisions of the University Law, was authorized to contribute annually towards the support of these libraries not to exceed 10 cents per volume circulated.

The New York Public Library proceeded to

consolidate into the corporation the various small corporations conducting free circulating libraries in this city. Gradually one corporation after another was taken into the New York Public Library, until it became apparent that all of these circulating libraries could be conducted in one system under the direction of the New York Public Library. The question then arose, after considerable study had been made of the subject by the experts under the direction of the trustees of this corporation, as to how these libraries could be properly housed. It was estimated by the library officials that a proper house for a community library would cost in the neighborhood of \$80,000 and that a reasonable estimate of the cost of maintenance of a library in such a house would be from \$8,000 to \$12,000 a year. It was also estimated that in the city of New York there should be acquired at least 65 buildings. There were at this time, in 1901, 52 branches conducted in the entire city, for which the city granted in 1901 for maintenance \$299,663.30, in addition to which the state granted \$5200 for the purchase of books. It was estimated, therefore, that there would be required in localities hitherto uncovered by library facilities at least 13 new branches. A difficult problem thus came before the New York Public Library, as to how to secure the very large sum which would be required before the corporation would be in a position properly to conduct a circulating system of libraries in the greater city. The matter was brought by the trustees to the attention of Mr. Andrew Carnegie, who offered to contribute the necessary funds for the housing of these libraries and the equipment of the same with shelving, furniture and everything necessary to complete the housing of the libraries. He made it a condition that the city should provide the land and support the libraries when they were contained in their new houses. It was estimated that the land for the buildings would cost in the neighborhood of \$2,000,000, and Mr. Carnegie contributed \$5,200,000 for the buildings.

By the gift 42 libraries were provided for the Boroughs of Manhattan, The Bronx and Richmond, 20 libraries for the Borough of Brooklyn, and three libraries for the Borough of Queens. The director of the New York Public Library estimated that for the conduct of the 42 branches in Manhattan, The Bronx and Richmond there would be required approximately \$500,000 a year for maintenance; that the circulation of books would probably exceed 5,000,000 volumes per year; that there should be at least 500,000 volumes in the department, with additions of new books and to replace old books of 40,000 volumes per annum. This estimate did not include Brooklyn or Queens.

Proper legislation having been had, the contracts were duly entered into between the city and Mr. Carnegie's representatives in the various boroughs. The consolidation of the li-

braries in Manhattan, The Bronx and Richmond have been completed. The consolidation in Brooklyn, under the Brooklyn Public Library, has also been completed, and the consolidation of the libraries in the Borough of Queens has recently been effected.

At the present time in the city of New York there are three library corporations conducting library operations in the Greater New York City, the New York Public Library conducting the large reference libraries and the circulating branches in the Boroughs of Manhattan, The Bronx and Richmond, the Brooklyn Public Library conducting libraries in the Borough of Brooklyn, and the Queens Borough Public Library conducting libraries in the Borough of Queens.

Contracts were subsequently made increasing the number of sites in order to provide for the outlying territories which were rapidly being developed; instead, therefore, of 65 sites as specified in the original contract a provision was made under the Carnegie contract for 78 sites, it being anticipated that the total cost of construction of these buildings would not be increased. Experience, however, has shown that the total cost has been increased very largely because of the increased cost of building, and Mr. Carnegie has agreed to make good any deficiency in this respect. The deficiency will amount to a very considerable sum.

At this date there have been acquired 55 sites for these libraries at a total cost of \$2,053,793.15, or an average cost of \$37,351.69 per site. It has been estimated that the total cost of the 78 sites will approximate \$3,000,000. The increase in cost of sites above the original estimate is due to the great increase in values of property in the city of New York since 1901.

In addition to the cost of maintenance it was necessary for the city to appropriate funds for the purchase of the original stock of books of \$10,000 for a large and \$5000 for a small library in certain of the new branch libraries where no stock of books had previously existed.

Appropriations for maintenance have been made by the city since 1901 as follows:

1901.....	\$299,663.30
1902.....	364,845.80
1903.....	431,543.80
1904.....	519,393.80
1905.....	634,393.80
1906.....	772,441.00
1907.....	846,325.80

During this period the circulation reported by the libraries conducted in the greater city is shown as follows:

1901.....	3,955,438
1902.....	5,054,001
1903.....	5,246,219
1904.....	5,994,387
1905.....	6,592,233
1906.....	8,094,992

At this date the following circulating libraries are in actual operation in the city:

Manhattan.....	30
The Bronx.....	4
Richmond.....	4
Brooklyn.....	26
Queens.....	14

78

At this date there have been erected new buildings, provided for in the gift of Mr. Andrew Carnegie, and branch circulating libraries in operation in said buildings to the number of 35, distributed in the boroughs of the greater city as follows:

Manhattan.....	15
The Bronx.....	3
Richmond.....	2
Brooklyn.....	9
Queens.....	6

35

The constantly increasing cost in maintaining the library system is accounted for by the normal growth of the city, by the increased facilities to the public in the proper housing of the libraries with proper accommodations and equipment, by giving the people books suitable for their use with an educative purpose, and by having these books constantly replenished and kept in proper sanitary condition. The books are not only circulated for home use, but reading rooms are established in the various libraries which provide a proper place for the people to read under competent advice, and in many libraries there have been established lecture halls for lectures on educational topics.

ROBT. B. McINTYRE,

Acting Supervising Statistician and Examiner.

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES UNDER MUNICIPAL CONTROL

THE following tract has recently been issued as a four-page leaflet by the New Jersey Public Library Commission:

SOME ADVANTAGES OF MUNICIPAL CONTROL

First—A free public library under municipal control has a regular, known income, which increases with the growth of the municipality.

Second—It is not dependent solely upon subscriptions, contributions and the proceeds of entertainments arranged for its benefit.

Third—With an income that is certain, the trustees are able to make plans for the future, and more economically administer the affairs of the library.

Fourth—A municipally-controlled library is owned by the people, and experience has demonstrated that they take a much greater interest in an institution belonging to them.

Fifth—Public libraries supplement the

work of the public schools. "Reading maketh a full man," wrote Lord Bacon; and Thomas Carlyle thus expressed the same idea: "The true university of these days is a collection of books." Libraries, like the schools, should be supported by the people.

Sixth—The library is not a charity; neither should it be regarded as a luxury, but rather as a necessity, and be maintained in the same manner that the schools, parks, fire departments and public roads are maintained—through the tax levy.

Seventh—Where all contribute the burden is not felt, each aiding according to his ability.

Eighth—Permanency is acquired for the library, and many valuable governmental, state and other publications may be obtained without cost, a privilege that is often denied to subscription libraries.

Ninth—The trustees and librarian are not hampered in their work by inability to collect subscriptions or the failure of an entertainment to return a profit.

Tenth—There is a more efficient and closer co-operation with the public schools and other municipal institutions and interests.

Eleventh—Public ownership secures more democratic service and broadness in administration.

Finally—All are interested in a free public library, and in an emergency there will be a more generous response to an appeal for financial assistance.

IS THE LIBRARY LAW BURDENSOME?

Section 3 of the revised [New Jersey] library law of 1905 provides that when the voters of a municipality have voted for a free public library "it shall become the duty of the governing body or appropriate board of said municipality annually thereafter to appropriate and raise by taxation a sum equal to one-third of a mill on every dollar of assessable property within such municipality." This provision is mandatory. Section 4 permits the governing body to raise an additional one-sixth of a mill, bringing the assessment up to a half of a mill. This is discretionary with the governing body. The money thus raised is to be used for no other purpose than for a free public library.

One-third of a mill on a dollar would be one cent on \$30, 10 cents on \$300, \$1 on \$3000. According to recent testimony of assessors in several counties, given before the state board of equalization of taxes, property is assessed at from 50 to 90 per cent. of its real value. Assume that the valuation is 75 per cent. A \$3000 house would be assessed for \$2250, and the annual tax at one-third of a mill would be 75 cents, and for this the taxpayer and the members of his family would get all the books they could read in 12 months,

and the children would have the benefit of the references in their studies. For the owner of a modest \$1500 home the one-third of a mill would be 38 cents, and he would get in return the use of the very best books and magazines for himself and his family. Surely this is no burden.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND MR. ANDREW CARNEGIE

Robert Johnson, in *The Academy* (London),
Aug. 31, 1907

MR. ANDREW CARNEGIE has recently focussed his benefactions on hospitals, and many public librarians will experience a feeling of relief from the hope that this new channel for his superfluous wealth may divert it from the public libraries of the country. This may seem a paradox, but the logic underlying it is sound. The gift to the London hospitals recently was a munificent one, and much needed; moreover, it was unconditional. But, be it remarked, Mr. Carnegie's gifts to England are by comparison with his gifts to America, extremely small. This, however, is not my point. For some years past Mr. Carnegie has been founding libraries; that is to say, he has been erecting buildings, and the results have been of a contrary nature. In large towns where populations are great much good has probably accrued; but, speaking as a public librarian, I am of opinion that this good is almost entirely outbalanced by the evil effects that arise from his many and insufficient donations to provincial urban authorities for public library buildings.

First of all it is necessary to emphasize the fact that public libraries are supported by a rate of one penny in the pound. This, in a town with 10,000 inhabitants would produce an average annual sum of approximately £2500. Such a town would probably support a public circulating library having an annual *clientèle* of nearly 10,000 borrowers, reading over 200,000 volumes a year, a reference library with perhaps 5000 readers, and a news-room accommodating scores of thousands more. The book production of England is probably 7000 volumes annually. Such a library has to be housed and administered by a competent staff, the best boroughs demanding that the senior members shall be certified by the Library Association. It needs no very careful thinking to demonstrate that a library with so small an income can only serve the people with a most rigid selection of the literary output of the year, and that the expenses of upkeep only leave enough for very inadequate remuneration of the librarians. With such an income many libraries, however, have a useful and active existence. But in towns where population and income are far below this sum the difficulties increase in

direct ratio to the decrease in the size of the income.

A country urban district with a few thousand inhabitants is brought under the eye of Mr. Carnegie. He thereupon offers it a sum large enough to build a good library building, "on the usual conditions." These are that the Libraries Act of 1892 shall be adopted and a penny rate levied, that the cost of the site shall not come out of the library funds, and above all, that no part of the donation shall be expended on books. The outcome is both ludicrous and painful. A handsome building is erected, and the library rate produces perhaps £300 per annum. Out of this ridiculous sum the library is to be maintained, the public is to be supplied with books, and a library staff is to be paid. As might be expected, the first economy — so-called — is effected in appointing the staff. Instead of a trained librarian, one of the wrecks of life, a broken down clerk, an ex-policeman or a stickit minister, is appointed at a salary equal to that of a bricklayer's laborer to superintend the public literature supply of the town. And perhaps he is supplemented by a boy from the local elementary schools. As the library will be open from nine in the morning until ten at night, these unfortunate individuals are compelled to work hours that would make a modern eight-hour-day mechanic writhe to contemplate. Then the library is starved for want of books. The utmost that can be expended on them is less than £100 a year, and as the book-selecting committee is without trained advice to enable it to select wisely, this meagre sum is rarely expended to advantage. Mr. Carnegie resolutely ignores the representations that have been made to him from time to time by librarians and people who understand that library buildings without books are veritable mockeries, and that the best library administered by a man who is not a librarian cannot produce the best results. Further, Mr. Carnegie has consistently refused to help libraries which are doing good work but are crippled by a plentiful lack of funds. He does not finance already established libraries; his aim is to establish libraries; that they may stagnate or go to ruin afterwards is no concern of his. Ill-staffed and inadequate buildings to him are of no moment whatever.

From these facts one can only deduce the conclusion that the majority of Mr. Andrew Carnegie's gifts to British libraries are not only not beneficial, but are actually inimical to the towns receiving them; and certainly he is responsible for the introduction into the profession of librarian of many incompetent and ill-paid men. This, in a generation when in large towns and particularly in London the public library assistant is being specially trained for his work by the universities and the Library Association, is a deplorable fact.

That public libraries manage to do much work under these evil conditions is a sign of the excellence of the library principle, not of their efficiency; and is merely an earnest of what might be done under favorable conditions. It would perhaps be unjust to infer that Mr. Carnegie cares more for the bronze medallion of himself which adorns the libraries he has built, than for the books and librarians that are their breath of life; but one may reasonably infer that the influence of Mr. Carnegie has not been unalloyed good. There may be other sides to this question, but, speaking as a librarian, this one is most evident to me.

BOOK-BEGGING BY SMALL LIBRARIES

In a recent issue of the *Athenæum*, London, an English publisher, Mr. Alfred Nutt, calls attention to a practice which obtains to considerable extent in this country also, though confined for the most part to small and new libraries. We give Mr. Nutt's communication in full:

"In common with, I presume, all other London publishers, I have received the accompanying application:

"I am secretary of the Public Library in this town. We have had a penny rate in force for some years, but it only amounts at the present time to £107 per annum, and this does not give us more than about £50 a year for spending on books. We have now had a new library building presented to us by Mr. Carnegie, which will be opened next month, and I write to know if you could see your way to giving us a small present of books published by you towards our library, as I feel sure any gift of the sort would be much appreciated."

"It seems desirable that the literary papers as well as trade organs should have their attention called to the matter, and I feel I cannot do better than ask the leading literary journal of the British Empire to grant me space for a few remarks.

"The application in question is no isolated one. A considerable number of library secretaries seem to imagine that in some mysterious way publishers bring books into the world without incurring expense, and are in a position to give away freely what has cost them nothing. Undoubtedly each such applicant thinks only of his own 'modest' request; but I shall be borne out by my colleagues when I say that if all such applications were granted entire editions would be required.

"The present is a particularly flagrant instance of an application that should be sternly resisted on grounds of principle. It is admitted that the library building has been given to the town; it is admitted that a rate is levied upon all inhabitants, whether they use the library or not; and yet the producers of the very article for the supply of which all this outlay, either gratuitous or forced, has been incurred, are now asked to provide

them gratis. It is much as if the town in question should determine to give free meals to the indigent, should accept the gift of a dining-hall, should force the ratepayers to contribute, and then—should dun Smithfield Market for gratuitous beefsteaks. Is it not time that municipal and other authorities recognized that libraries exist, not for the purpose of keeping the building trade going, not even for the purpose of paying miserably attenuated salaries, but for the purpose of disseminating and encouraging literature—a purpose which can be best effected by purchasing what the man of letters produces? No library scheme should, I would urge, be considered unless it makes ample provision for this, the primary purpose of a library.

"I fear that any appeal to Mr. Carnegie is useless. Still, I would fain hope that my appeal, if printed in the *Athenæum*, may reach him, and may induce him, in the case of any further benefactions, to reserve at least 25 per cent. of the total sum he proposes to give for a Purchase Endowment Fund. Failing such provision, he should clearly realize that the large sums he has given or may give are, as far as what must be assumed to be his main object is concerned, largely wasted."

CONTAGION THROUGH BOOKS— FRENCH SUGGESTIONS

THE Chicago *Inter-Ocean* publishes a special cable dispatch from Paris on the attitude of French physicians in regard to the peril of lending books. It says:

Drs. Jose Badia and Nicholas V. Greco have drawn up a list of measures destined to prevent the contamination of books by septic germs and avoid numerous risks of contagion:

1. The installation of bowls for hand washing at the entrance and exit of the reading room.
2. Washing the floor and furniture of the rooms with antiseptic solutions.
3. The use of sterilizable moisteners with the object of avoiding the moistening of readers' fingers with saliva.
4. The distribution of squares of glass to be placed over the pages while they are being read, so as to avoid any soiling by the results of involuntary acts such as sneezing or coughing.
5. Disinfection by formal or fumes of sulphur for books returned from home reading, and disinfection by steam under pressure in the case of school books.
6. Destruction of very cheap works.
7. The publication in schools and other educational centers of instructions regarding the need and the means of avoiding contagion by borrowed books.

The foregoing measures seem particularly recommended for the libraries of hospitals and sanatoriums, where works are often handled without the least regard for the most elementary hygienic rules.

SOME CANONS OF CLASSIFICATION

W. C. Bervick, in *Library Association Record*, August, 1907

General:

1. A classification should be comprehensive, embracing all past and present knowledge, and allowing places for any possible additions to knowledge.

2. It should follow in its form the order of evolution, or the order of complexity, or of history; that is to say, it should commence with terms of wide extension and of small intension and proceed to terms of small extension and great intension.

3. In this process the steps should be gradual, each term modulating from the term before it and into the term following, thus exhibiting perfect correlation of subjects.

4. The enumeration of parts should be exhaustive.

Terms:

1. Names used in classification must be used in one sense throughout, and indicate characteristics of the same kind or order.

2. Terms must not be critical, nor express an evaluative opinion of the subjects they denote.

3. Characteristics used must be *essential* in relation to the purpose for which the classification is intended.

4. Characteristics used should therefore represent inherent properties of things classified, a natural arrangement being preferred to accidental or artificial arrangement.

5. Characteristics should be mutually exclusive, no two headings should overlap.

6. Characteristics must be consistent, the same characteristics being sought as the arranging factor in every object.

Notation:

1. It must be furnished with a notation which shall provide a shorthand sign for every topic classified.

2. The notation should be pure; that is to say, it should be composed entirely of one kind of symbol.

3. It should be elastic, and so constructed as to permit the re-division of any number or the intercalation of any new one without disarranging the sequence.

Index:

1. It must be furnished with a relative index; that is to say, an index showing the place of every topic, and every phase or view of a topic.

These canons are based on the criteria and rules of Dr. E. C. Richardson, Mr. L. Stanley Jast and the late Mr. Franklin T. Barrett. As they stand here collectively, however, they do not represent the full views of either of these authors; in fact, I believe Mr. Jast entirely disagrees with more than one of them, and some of Dr. Richardson's criteria I have altered to meet my own views.

BROOKLYN CENTRAL LIBRARY
PLANS

THE planning of the proposed central library building for the Brooklyn (N. Y.) Public Library system has probably received more thorough and comprehensive advance preparation than any library building ever constructed. Mr. Frank P. Hill, the Brooklyn librarian, first prepared a careful series of inquiries, which was sent to the librarians of American libraries which had buildings of importance in operation or under consideration. Information was asked as to the several purposes for which rooms were provided, the size of the room, etc., and especially the particulars in which provisions had proved unsatisfactory or inadequate. The mass of information brought together was tabulated in an enormous blueprint, $6\frac{1}{2}$ by $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet, covering the space-data of 41 libraries, which we regret cannot be reproduced in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*. It is understood, however, that a copy will be loaned to libraries considering the construction of large buildings. Mr. Hill also accumulated advance data as to important library buildings abroad.

The choice of a single architect, in July, 1906, without competition and without consultation with the board of trustees, by the borough president of Brooklyn, in whose hands was placed by resolution of the board of aldermen of New York City the provision of preliminary plans subject to approval of the board of trustees, met with severe criticism and opposition. But the choice in advance of an architect had one useful result. The architect, Raymond F. Almirall, was sent, in August, 1906, in company with Librarian Hill and Professor A. D. F. Hamlin, of Columbia University as consulting architect, to examine and report upon libraries and public buildings abroad before there was any shaping even of preliminary plans. Professor Hamlin's admirable reports of results, covering the inspection of 25 libraries and other public buildings abroad, have already been printed in full in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* for October, 1906, p. 710-715. A supplementary report was also made by Librarian Hill.

These investigations were made with special reference to the peculiar site selected for the library building, a truncated triangle of irregular dimensions fronting on the great plaza before the main entrance to Prospect Park, marking the future civic center of Brooklyn. This site, belonging to the city, was formally set apart Dec. 15, 1905, for the library building. It had been opposed in the board of trustees because of its irregular shape, its supposed inadequacy of size, and its proximity to Prospect Park, the last objection being based on unwillingness to lessen the free space about the plaza and park entrance. The choice of the site was nevertheless approved by the board of trustees, one of the arguments in its favor being that the shape

and location of the plot presented unusual library and architectural opportunities. The plot has a north front of 125 feet on the plaza, western dimensions of 380 feet on Flatbush avenue, a wide thoroughfare separating it from Prospect Park, eastern dimensions of 270 feet on the Eastern Parkway, and southern dimensions of 400 feet contiguous to the Prospect Hill Reservoir, permitting, however, the extension of Vanderbilt avenue, if it should prove desirable to separate the library site from the reservoir. The site provides an area of over 100,000 square feet, while the dimensions of other great library buildings are: Library of Congress, 470×340 feet (159,800 sq. ft. area); New York Public Library, 366×246 (90,036 sq. ft. area); Boston Public Library, 225×229 (51,525 sq. ft. area). Particular attention was given by the committee to the many successful public buildings abroad occupying triangular or corner sites.

In consultation with Professor Hamlin and in accordance with the report on program from him, printed in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, November, 1906, p. 771-772, Librarian Hill prepared a careful program stating the amount of rooms required for each of the several facilities and their proper relations to the general features requisite from the library point of view. During the summer of 1907 successive drafts were made by the architect, in consultation with Librarian Hill and Professor Hamlin and also with Mr. C. C. Soule, of the American Library Association committee on architecture. The results of these many drafts were presented to the board of trustees at its September meeting, and reproductions of the architect's drawings for the façade as seen from the center line, with plans of the ground floor and main floor and a longitudinal section of the building are given in this issue of the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*. It is interesting to note that every room called for in the program has been provided in the dimensions required, or in larger dimensions, and the only features in other libraries which are not specifically roomed are the select standard library such as exists in the old Brooklyn Library and in the Providence Public Library, and the Artisans' Room, a feature of the latter library, for both of which room may be provided from the unappropriated spaces.

One of the features emphasized during the consultations was the desirability of separating the public portions of the library from the administrative rooms necessary in connection with the large Brooklyn system.

The plan worked out is at once simple and comprehensive. The apex, fronting on the plaza, provides the central architectural feature and is given up chiefly to the entrance halls, grand stairway, elevators, and public conveniences. The west wing, opposite Prospect Park, is assigned to the public rooms and special collections, with the important feature that the children's room, the library for the blind, and the newspaper reading-room have

each separate access from the street. The east wing, along the Eastern Parkway, is given over entirely to administrative and work rooms. Between these, and communicating with both on the southern side of the triangle, is the great stack house, affording accommodation for over 2,000,000 volumes. Within the triangular enclosure thus made is the great central feature of the domed building, providing for the delivery room on the "ground floor" and the reference reading-room on the "main floor" directly above, so that one set of machinery communicates from the center of these rooms with the stack. Access to these central rooms is had from both public and administrative wings as well as directly from the front, while adequate provision for light and ventilation is made by the courts between this central building and the enclosing wings, which courts are carried below the street level. Under the delivery room, below street level, following the precedent of the Imperial Library at Vienna, provision is made for supplementary stack room, with storage capacity of a million volumes, and above the reference room provision is made around its lantern for staff rooms, giving wide outlook over the park and other parts of the city. In the allotment of rooms to the several stories, it has been kept in mind throughout as a guiding principle that rooms most thronged by the public are to be provided on the ground floor, those for reference and study purposes on the upper floors. By the arrangement of rooms in suites in proper relation with each other, waste in corridors is happily prevented and light is given on both sides of the large rooms.

The area covered by the building is approximately 90,000 square feet, or, exclusive of court spaces, approximately 77,000 square feet. The total floor area provided in the several stories, outside of the stack and storage rooms, approximates 270,000 square feet, or about six acres.

The public group of rooms occupies, as indicated, the front, central pavilion and west wing. As the site occupies a rise of ground from the front backward, access to the ground floor is had from the plaza by exterior steps. From the ground floor vestibule, with elevators on either side, a broad passage leads to the delivery room in the central pavilion, extending upward two stories with central delivery desk. To the west is an entrance from the delivery room to the children's room, which has also street access; adjoining the children's room in the west wing, also with street access, is the library for the blind, and at the extreme south end of the west wing, separated by a lobby, is the impressive newspaper reading-room, with radial newspaper racks, with space for storage of newspapers below it. Between this and the main stack is the public document room. A glassed passage in the court connects the several rooms with the delivery room.

The "first" or intermediate floor includes in the west wing an exhibition gallery, a teachers' reference room, and the periodical reading-room immediately above the newspaper reading-room, with the scientific periodical room between it and the stack. An emergency hospital room is also provided, on this floor.

On the "second" or main floor the main reference room, occupying the central pavilion, is reached by a broad staircase from the front as well as by convenient elevators. The reference delivery desk occupies the center, and directly behind it is the entrance to the main stack, with staff toilets and service stairs. The public catalog room adjoins the main reference room, with entrance also from the main stairs and also connection with administrative rooms. In the west wing are a writing and copying room for the public, the map room, the statistical department, and the patent room, and across a lobby the art-book rooms suite, including the print, fine art book, manuscript, rare book, photographic and dark rooms.

On the third floor of the west wing are rooms for special collections, club-rooms, a lecture room, and study rooms of different sizes, a music room with two sound-proof piano-rooms adjoining, and a room for the engineers' club and library.

The administrative group of rooms, occupying the east wing, includes on the ground floor, starting from the front, the offices of the superintendent of building, the staff entrance, lockers and toilets, the delivery station room, the packing room, the supply department, and the book order department, all these rooms being reached from a corridor leading from the unloading platform at the rear, which opens into the service court, to which wagons have access from Vanderbilt avenue at the rear. In the basement below these departments are also placed printing office, bindery, repair room, janitor's room, and general storage and stock rooms. The staff entrance is from the Eastern Parkway, on the ground floor.

The "first" or intermediate floor provides for the executive and administrative offices, including rooms for the trustees, committees, finance clerks, superintendents of branches, stenographers, librarian's secretary, librarian, assistant librarian, and a living apartment.

On the "second" or main floor, provision is made for an apprentice class-room, to accommodate 100 students, for the interchange and travelling library departments, for the public catalog room, and for a reception and conversation room. The third floor is to be occupied entirely by the cataloging department, except the portion above the reception and conversation room, which is to be devoted to the Library of Congress cards. The top floor of the dome, as stated, has accommodations for the staff, including a room provided with gas stoves for the use of those who bring their lunch.

Janitor's quarters are provided on a mezzanine floor above the main staircase.

The building will be of steel skeleton construction, with reinforcing of concrete, generally buff Indiana limestone ashlar above the top of the base course, and below Stony Creek granite. Provision is made for waterproof and damp-proof construction below street level, and for copper roof. The estimates of cost, exclusive of interior finish, vary one side or the other of \$3,000,000. In an elaborate report by the consulting architect, Professor Hamlin, he gives the following summary of the general structural effect:

"The general treatment of the exterior as well as of the interior is monumental, dignified and refined. The main cornice is 64 feet above the basement and 68 above the Plaza front sidewalk, and is carried around the entire building except the stack-block, which rises somewhat higher. This unbroken cornice level gives great unity and an impression of vast extent to the building, while its height brings it into proper scale-relation both with the Memorial Arch and the Brooklyn Institute. The Plaza front is treated with colossal columns, coupled in three bays, with great windows, thus giving it architectural dominance over the whole edifice, and plainly announcing the magnificent entrance hall, while its great openings sufficiently suggest the library. The avenue wings are treated in a style of simple classic dignity, the bays well spaced, well proportioned and in excellent scale. The basement or ground story is vigorous and effective as a base or pedestal for the whole design."

This verdict of Professor Hamlin is confirmed by one of the most distinguished of French architects, M. Laloux, of Paris, to whom the plans were submitted for criticism, and who cabled Mr. Almirall: "Projet bibliothèque Brooklyn entièrement remarquable, architecture belle grandiose. Sincères félicitations."

The plans though worked out in detail are presented as provisional and if adopted are subject to modification as to detail. They were exhibited and discussed at the September meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Brooklyn Public Library and then made the special order of business for the October meeting.

EIGHTH CONFERENCE OF GERMAN LIBRARIANS

THE eighth meeting of German librarians, which took place on May 23 and 24 in Bamberg, and was attended by 66 persons, is reported in the Aug-Sept. number of the *Zentralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*. Chairman Dr. Schwenke, in his opening address, greeted the foreign colleagues present, particularly Dr. Herbert Putnam, "representative of the American libraries, from the definite progress of which we have so much to learn,"

and spoke of the interest of this conference on Bavarian soil, calling attention to the riches in manuscripts and early books to be found here, and the efforts to make them useful by proper cataloging. This local interest was accentuated in two of the papers read: "The Royal Library of Bamberg and its manuscripts," by Hans Fischer, and "Private libraries in Bamberg in olden and modern times" (incidentally giving information regarding prices of books late in the 16th century, and the chaining of books in 1513), by Dr. Schottenloher.

Of the other two formal papers, one by Dr. Geiger dealt with drawbacks in the issuing of dissertations. His main points are these: Exchange brings about 8000 dissertations and programs each year as gifts to a university library, printing of dissertations being compulsory. More than 10 per cent. of the German dissertations are a stumbling-block to librarians, over which much time is wasted. Certain periodicals and serial publications, which are purchased by the libraries, are made up in great part (sometimes altogether) of dissertations, the latter often not noted there as such. The yearly list of dissertations published in Berlin does not appear soon enough to enable one to identify doubtful cases promptly as dissertations. Furthermore, dissertations are often issued in incomplete form so that acquisition in complete form as part of a series or as a separate book may become necessary. As a means of improving existing conditions it is suggested that dissertations must be complete and have scientific value, and that those which get into the book-trade be clearly indicated as dissertations. The author, in his introduction, alluded to the fact that the importance of the library—which to him means the very embodiment of the *universitas litterarum* at the high schools, for instance—is not yet generally recognized in Germany.

Dr. Fick's address on "The bureau of information of the German libraries and its search list" is an interesting contribution to the literature of co-operation. This bureau he characterizes as a compromise between the tendency to deny the value of the general (union) catalog *in toto*, and that which sees in the individual library only a part of the general organism embracing the entire country. It is the extreme measure of what can be done, for a long time to come, in the way of co-operation between German libraries. There are defects. In the smaller libraries, for instance, the result is not in proportion to the time spent in going through the "search lists," when the university library at Kiel reports "present" to only 35 out of 3000 question cards received in a year. But this state of affairs is only temporary. In ten years the catalog formed by these question-cards will presumably have grown to 30,000 cards. By that time, repe-

tition of the same query will frequently make it possible to answer the same directly by reference to this catalog with its record of the libraries in which a desired book may be found. Another difficulty lies in the fact that the system of inter-library loans is not yet sufficiently developed. Reference libraries should leave a loophole in the wall surrounding them. From the founding of the bureau to the end of March, 1907, 3061 inquiries have been received in regard to 7874 books.

Of these latter 5117 were traced. This is about 65 per cent., but the result looks more favorable if it is considered that rarities of the first rank, publications supposed to have disappeared, have been discovered even in some of the smallest libraries. A considerable proportion of the books asked for and not found did not exist, were never printed. Nevertheless, the sum of the missing books implies a deplorable gap for science. The "search lists" can therefore serve as an indication to libraries of necessary acquisitions. As means are limited, this will best be done by concerted action on the part of all, leaving to each library the acquisition of the specialty which it cultivates. Again, a library facing the question of purchasing a less important but costly periodical, may ascertain at the central office (Berlin) whether the set is to be found elsewhere, making its purchase unnecessary. On the other hand, the bureau can serve as an intermediary between the antiquarian book seller and the libraries, sending his offers of special books to the most appropriate place. Fick suggests also the temporary exchange of library assistants between the central office and the non-Prussian libraries, in order to promote better mutual understanding. It appears to me that Dr. Fick's comments on this matter are not without their lesson for us in America.

The committee on public documents reported on the questions: 1. How will libraries most practically attain knowledge and possession of official publications? 2. Is it advisable to promote uniformity in listing and distributing public documents by publishing at regular intervals a list of new publications in this field? 3. How is such a list to be published? The proper authorities have been approached, but no definite conclusions have yet been officially reached. Meanwhile the director of the Royal Library in Berlin has urged the ministry to revive the former ordinances which make the delivery of all official publications to the Royal Library and the Prussian university libraries compulsory. These ordinances have fallen into abeyance, producing a very unsatisfactory state of affairs. As to the proposed list, the committee favored it strongly, recommending that it record all printed documents (those written by hand or machine only when very important), even those not intended for publication (unless state interests are

endangered by even the naming of the title), and that the preparation and printing of such lists is the business of the Empire and the individual states of the *Bund*, each for its own publications. So our German confrères can at least "report progress" in this field.

Two purely technical matters were brought up. Brunn of Munich showed a cataloging aid of his own invention, a "card chain," which consists in each case of 50 cards, attached to each other by a system of paper hooks and eyes, and which can be folded in a pack and kept in boxes, or unfolded and hung on wall-space, or gathered into volumes. It differs from the Rudolph and other similar systems by having each entry separate and admitting of quick insertion of additions. The inventor recommends the contrivance particularly for special lists, for instance, lists of recent accessions. Prof. E. Wiedemann demonstrated his apparatus for white-on-black photography, in which he strove primarily to produce a convenient and cheap aid for copying manuscripts and printed matter. The system has been used for such purpose with best results. Hottinger suggested that the taking of such pictures would give the women in library service another good opportunity to exemplify their manual skill.

Finally it is to be noted that the Verein deutscher Bibliothekare now has 347 members, had a surplus, last year, of 411.47 mark, and enjoys the possession *in toto* of 2669.11 marks.

FRANK WEITENKAMPF.

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OFFICERS

At the eighth monthly meeting of the Library Association of the United Kingdom, held on Monday, June 10th, 1907, at 20 Hanover Square, W., the following officers and council for 1907-08 were elected:

President: Francis T. Barrett, librarian of the Mitchell Library, Glasgow.

Vice-presidents: Councillor T. C. Abbott, member of the Manchester Public Libraries Committee and chairman of the legislation committee of the Library Association; W. E. A. Axon, F.R.S.L., Southport; John Ballinger, librarian of the Public Libraries, Cardiff; J. Potter Briscoe, F.R.S.L., city librarian, Nottingham, and hon. secretary of the North Midland Library Association; James Duff Brown, librarian of the Public Libraries, Islington; Frank J. Burgoyne, librarian of the Public Libraries, Lambeth; Peter Cowell, librarian of the Public Libraries, Liverpool; E. Wyndham Hulme, librarian of the Patent Office Library, London; Lawrence Inkster, librarian of the Public Libraries, Battersea; T. W. Lyster, M.A., librarian of the National Library of Ireland, Dublin; J. Y. W. MacAlister, secretary of the Royal Society of

Medicine, London; C. W. Sutton, M.A., librarian of the Public Libraries, Manchester.

Hon. Treasurer: Henry R. Tedder, secretary and librarian of the Athenæum, London.

Hon. Secretary: L. Stanley Jast, librarian of the Public Libraries, Croydon.

Hon. Solicitor: H. W. Fovargue, town clerk, Eastbourne.

30TH ANNUAL MEETING

THE Library Association of the United Kingdom, which met at Glasgow in 1888, held its 30th annual meeting there from Tuesday, Sept. 17, to Thursday, Sept. 19, 1907, under the presidency of Mr. F. T. Barrett, librarian of the Mitchell Library, Glasgow. The meeting was preceded by a reception Monday evening by the Lord Provost and Corporation, at the City Chambers, and was pleasantly interrupted Tuesday noon for the laying of the cornerstone of the new Mitchell Library building in North street, by Andrew Carnegie, under the presidency of the Lord Provost, after which there was luncheon at the City Chambers.

The meeting was opened Tuesday morning in the gallery of the Fine Arts Institute by the Lord Provost, Mr. William Bilsland, who introduced Andrew Carnegie. Mr. Carnegie's stirring speech of welcome was received with enthusiasm.

Mr. Barrett then delivered his presidential address, in the course of which he said that the progress of the library movement during the year had brought the total number of communities which supported public libraries to about 600, the number of separate libraries being about 1000. The urban population of the United Kingdom was now to a considerable degree possessed of libraries of greater or less extent and efficiency. The more difficult problem of the extension of those facilities to rural populations had only just been entered upon. One of the pleasing features of the year had been the increased activity and success of the movement for the better training of young persons who had entered upon library work as a life calling. The objections to public libraries which were heard from time to time were focussed for the most part on two points. One was the circulation of fiction; the other was the allegation that public libraries, in providing newspapers, created opportunities for gambling. Some had adopted the plan of obliterating the betting news; in other cases the existence of the nuisance had led to a proposal to exclude newspapers altogether from the reading-rooms. The president ventured to suggest to the Institute of Journalists that they might consider the point whether some action could be taken by the controllers of important newspapers to abate or to abolish that unhappy element. He suggested that in the publication of books more attention might be given to the composition of the title-page. Very

many books were issued with titles so brief or so misleading as to convey little information of the true character of the contents. The titles should be fuller, and should include the subject, the object, and the nature of the book, with some indication of its scope and limitations; and especially it should be punctuated.

Papers entitled "Notes on the libraries of Glasgow" and "The organization of the Glasgow District Libraries," by Mr. Barrett and Mr. S. A. Pitt, having been printed and distributed, were taken as read. Mr. H. R. Tedder, of the Athenæum Club, then gave his paper, "The librarian in relation to books." He said that the relation of the librarian to books had a threefold aspect, being first, the handling of books; secondly, the looking at books; and thirdly, the reading of books. The extension of co-operative methods conducted to the suppression of individuality. The craving for uniformity was a sign, not of evolution, but of degeneracy, a kind of mental socialism. The looking at books was something between their physical manipulation and reading them. The mental culture of the librarian must be extensive rather than intensive. He must train himself in rapid methods of knowing something of the subject-matter and comparative value of a book without the labor of perusal; this was Dr. Johnson's plan of tearing the heart out of a book. There were certain classes of books to be avoided; for instance, all primers, introductions, abstracts, books about books, commentaries, many histories, most new books. Bibliography should be taught in schools, and also the art of avoidance or "skipping." Few books were worth reading from cover to cover, and a book should be dropped as soon as it began to weary. Overmuch reading produced mental dyspepsia. The eupeptic reader delights in his book and assimilates its teaching. His mental food should be varied. The librarian was happily placed as regards his relations to books; his calling did not lead to worldly wealth, but it opened out a prospect of intellectual competency.

At Tuesday evening's session Mr. Samuel Smith (Sheffield) gave an account of "An experiment in connection with a subscription library," in which he stated that the establishment of a subscription department for new books had been successful. Mr. Cyril Davenport, of the British Museum, then gave a lantern-slide lecture on "English and Scottish royal heraldry on books," with reproductions of royal bindings, and Mr. R. W. Sindall another on "Modern printing papers," in which the slides illustrated the nature of modern papers and modern difficulties in connection therewith.

On Wednesday morning, Dr. J. B. Paton read a paper, written by Mr. L. S. Jast and himself, on "New proposals in regard to

public libraries by the National Home Reading Union." Dr. Paton said that the main object of the public library was to provide the best reading, and the sole object of the Reading Union was to guide its members to the best available books, and to form in them a taste for, and habit of, the best reading. The Union had in recent years made special efforts to co-operate more closely with public libraries. The Union would supply librarians with information as to the best and most accessible books on any required subject, and would give advice as to individual courses of reading. Typed lectures would be prepared for the use of circles, with lantern-slides wherever possible; and the Union offered to supply at a small cost a new monthly magazine, to be called *The Reader's Review*, which might be adopted in each library by means of a certain number of local pages. Each number would contain original literary articles by well-known writers, together with lists of books on current topics. It would be managed by a committee, of which a certain number would be librarians. The proposals produced a lively discussion. Much sympathy was expressed with the aims of the Union, but the details of the new review were closely criticized. Finally a resolution was carried welcoming the proposals, and approving of the scheme of the new journal, which was commended to the consideration of all library authorities.

Mr. H. W. Fovargue, of Eastbourne, then submitted his views on "The liability of public libraries to be assessed for rates and taxes." He explained how exemption could be obtained in certain cases, and gave a summary of the decisions of the courts. A resolution was carried requesting the Council to procure information as to the assessment of public libraries and the amounts paid by them for rates and taxes, and also asking them to consider the advisability of obtaining a decision of the Court of Appeal, and if necessary of the House of Lords, on the question. Owing to the absence of Prof. John Ferguson (Glasgow University), his paper on "A review of the literature of books of receipts" was taken as read. In the afternoon the members were divided into four parties, in order to inspect a number of libraries in the city.

The annual business meeting was held in the evening. The report of the Council stated that the new Public Libraries Bill had been printed, and had been backed by a number of members of Parliament of all shades of political opinion. It had been under the care of Mr. H. J. Tennant, M.P. The assistance of all library authorities was invited to ensure the passing of the bill next session. The continued and increasing success of the educational work of the Association was gratifying and was described in

detail. The committee on net books had had a sympathetic meeting with a committee of the Publishers' Association. If sufficient arrangements could not be made with the Associated Booksellers, some scheme of co-operation among libraries would be undertaken. A pamphlet had been prepared to suggest to library authorities what steps they should take when carrying out the acts before the appointment of a librarian.

On Thursday morning the first item on the agenda was a discussion on the net-book question, opened by Councillor Abbott (Manchester), who asked the meeting to express an opinion as to whether a bureau or co-operative society could be conducted under the management of the Library Association for the purchase, on wholesale terms, of the books required by the libraries of the Association. Mr. Carter (Kingston-on-Thames) said that even the prices of second-hand books had increased. Mr. Hanson (Library of Congress, Washington) explained what had been done in the United States about net books. Finally the president recommended the meeting to leave the question in the hands of the committee.

The remainder of the morning sitting was devoted to reports. Councillor Abbott explained the work of the legislation committee; an account of the association of certain librarians and educational authorities of the London County Council in drawing up a new catalog of books for school libraries was submitted by Mr. Tedder; Mr. E. A. Baker described the successful work of the education committee; a report on the progress made in drawing up a code of cataloging rules by the British and American library associations, for common use in all English-speaking countries, was submitted by Mr. John Minto (Signet Library); Mr. Henry Bond delivered a statement of the work of the publications committee; and Mr. E. W. Hulme reported on sound leather.

The meeting concluded with the usual vote of thanks. There was an exhibition of a number of the best books of the year; and a classified list of "Best books for 1906-7," drawn up by a committee of experts, was for sale. In the evening the annual dinner of the Association took place, and a presentation was made to Mr. H. D. Roberts (Brighton) in recognition of his valuable services for ten years as hon. secretary of the education committee.

On Friday a large number of the members made a sailing cruise in the Firth of Clyde. On landing at Kilehatten Bay the party was conveyed to Mount Stuart, and afterwards to Rothesay, the trip making an agreeable finish to a well-attended and successful conference. In the course of the meeting steps were taken to bring about the establishment of a Scottish Branch of the Library Association.

"LIBRARY WEEK" AT STAMFORD,
NEW YORK, SEPT. 23-30, 1907

THE seventeenth annual meeting of the New York Library Association was held at "The Rexmere," Stamford, N. Y., in the Catskill mountains, with an attendance of 157 members and friends. Librarians from Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Missouri, Illinois, Wisconsin, the District of Columbia and the Province of Quebec were present, besides a large representation from New York State. Sixty-four libraries, 49 of which are located in the state of New York were represented at this meeting. Miss Valfrid Palmgren, who had been sent to this country by the Swedish government as its representative, to study public libraries and their methods in America, attended the meeting.

The first session was held on Monday evening, Sept. 23, with the president, Mr. Walter L. Brown in the chair. After the preliminary business had been transacted, the president introduced the first speaker, Dr. S. E. Churchill, one of the oldest residents of the village of Stamford, who, after welcoming the association most cordially, gave a very interesting historical account of his birthplace, from the time of its occupation by the Indian and the arrival of the first white settler down to the present day.

The treasurer then submitted his report, which was referred to an auditing committee consisting of Mr. Strohm, Mr. Evans and Mr. Van Duzee.

In the temporary absence of Mr. Eastman, chairman of the Institute Committee, his report on Library Institutes was read by the secretary. The report stated that 29 round table meetings had been held during the year, the same number as last year, bringing together 467 persons, representing 213 libraries, showing an increase in attendance of 65 persons and of 19 libraries represented, as compared with the previous year's record. It is of interest to note that the topics most frequently selected for discussion by the small library were "How to select books," chosen 18 times, and "When to buy books and how," chosen 14 times.

The president then delivered his address, dwelling particularly on the keynote of the meeting, "The place of the library in elementary education, with a review of its conditions in New York State."

"After many years of work, experiment and discussion, we have perhaps reached a time when there is but little question as to the advisability of what we call library work in the public school. Our methods are many and the practice varies in as many places as the different methods are being used. We may differ widely as to which are best, but we shall doubtless all unite in the belief that the conditions which we find for doing this work are far from ideal.

"All of us who have had any experience in

the use of books by the pupils of the grade schools know how much our success depends upon the co-operation of the teachers, and how often our failures can be attributed to their lack of interest in our efforts. We therefore believe that the subject proposed for this session by Miss Plummer strikes very near the root of our trouble. The work has already commenced here, and more has been done in a number of other states, while an admirable text book has been prepared for its use. It certainly means a great advance toward better conditions if the normal schools will give the future teachers some practical instruction in the use of books and a realization of their culture value. In giving this to the teacher there would at least be created a bond of sympathy with the librarian working from outside the school, not always to be found at present.

"Many librarians will cheerfully admit the lack of the knowledge of books in most teachers, and a lack of ability to properly use them; while many teachers are apt to resent, to some degree, the librarian's attempt to help the pupil as unwarranted interference by those who know little of the teacher's work and who have but little appreciation of the fulness of the teacher's hours.

"Points of view so different do not help the cause in which we are both interested. Should we not make more progress, because of better chances of hearty, good-natured team work, if we emphasized the special knowledge each saw in the other, rather than the ignorance? If we do know books because of our having more opportunities to see and handle them, teachers, on the other hand, have much more intimate knowledge of children, the contents of their minds, their lacks and needs—specially they should know individual children and their individual needs.

"We must admit that it is not fair to push the cause of the library at the expense of the school; that we should not encroach too much upon the school hours, but at the same time we may justly hold that the work of the school is but poorly done if it cannot give the future citizens in their brief five, or it may be ten years' training, a taste for reading, together with a slight knowledge of how to use books, and information as to where they may be found in after life. With the power to read the printed book, it would seem but right that before leaving school they should have pointed out to them the road which the state has opened, leading them to a means of self education and self culture. This has come to be the belief of many educators.

"What there is good in our American system," said Dr. Harris, "points toward the preparation of the pupil for the independent study of the book by himself. It points toward acquiring the ability of self education by means of a library."

"We hope to bring out the present condition of the work with the schools by the papers upon the experience in New York City and the discussion which will follow. This, we believe, will help us in making an estimate of the value of the use of miscellaneous books during school life, both by the consideration of what is right and what is wrong in present methods.

"The educational idea of library work prevails in New York State, where the schools and the libraries, so far as state aid and supervision are concerned, are looked upon as parts of the one system of public instruction, being placed in the care of a single state department.

"We may hope that in time the popular idea of education by the use of the library may be so welded upon the idea of education in the school that every pupil will realize that leaving the grammar school is but the end of one opportunity for public instruction, and that another—the public library—is always open to him if he wishes to avail himself of it.

"We hope to hear from representatives of the State Educational Department upon the work which the department is doing, not only in bringing the library and the school together, but also what it is doing for the libraries of the state to help their work for the public beyond the school period; what for their increase in number and their increase in usefulness.

"This might at first seem to offer very familiar information to this body, but it can do no harm to have a general review of the work for the correction of any wrong impression we may have.

"At our last conference some suggestions for library interests were drawn up and afterwards submitted to the Commissioner of Education. In presenting these to the Board of Regents, with his cordial approval, he said that 'while these suggestions were all in the right direction, there were some which would have been modified had the association been in possession of further information than it apparently had,' and he then stated that he had planned to make the exploitation of state library interests a special theme in his next annual report. This report is now ready and he has issued that part of it relating to libraries in a separate pamphlet, which we shall find full of interest to us, not only as individuals, but most suggestive and valuable to the New York Library Association. It seems to me to show that there is much more which this association might do in co-operation with the State Department in its work of library extension and encouragement. I believe that the extent of the association's co-operation, at present, aside from our annual meeting, is what is being done by our very useful and active Committee on Library Institutes.

"In this valuable report of Dr. Draper's he sums up his figures and information con-

cerning the condition of the school libraries with this statement: 'There is good reason for saying that there is probably no large system of schools in the world so well provided with ready reference libraries as our New York system,' and it is highly gratifying to read also that "the number of public libraries is 234 times larger, their books are four times as many and the circulation six times as much as in 1892. Then the books were 352 for each 1000 of population, now they are 1715 for each 1000. Then the circulation was 269 per 100 volumes, now 375 for each 100 books in the libraries, showing not only a positive increase, but a relative advance in the use of books supplied.'

"But we must remember that these averages are somewhat influenced by the active work being done in the larger centers of population, and so do not show as great an increase throughout the state as the figures indicate. The report shows that there are still a number of cities without free public libraries; that of 950 other places with a population of 300 or greater, 228 have public libraries, while 240 more have libraries in their schools, which are but little used by any beyond the school age. Even if we count the latter as public libraries, there are, so far as official record shows, more than half of these small communities yet unprovided for.

"In many of these places there are, doubtless, libraries of one kind or another which do not report to the State Department, and in some cases, perhaps, they may supply ample facilities for the existing demands of their communities. It does, however, show that they do not realize the possibilities of the public library, and indicates that there is yet much work to be done in stimulating public opinion to demand them.

"Would it not be possible for a committee of our association to co-operate with the State Department in this work? It would probably necessitate a supplementary report as to the requirements and the book supplies of these different communities, and upon which were in the greatest real need. It is probable that the communities where we would find the most need would be the last to ask for help from the State Department. Our association, through its membership, could make a much more thorough canvass of the library work in the state than could the State Department acting from Albany and through its inspectors. We are each, in our own locality, much better able to judge of local conditions and local needs and I am sure that our efficient State Department which has supplied such a valuable basis for such a canvass would welcome our co-operation. When this is once done, we could take up our aggressive campaign toward introducing libraries where they were most needed and aid the department in much which its limited number of inspectors makes impossible now for it to accomplish.

"I am exceedingly doubtful of my right to make any suggestions of work for the association. It is a matter of personal regret that I have had so little part in its many past activities, but I have at least been among the spectators and have thus gained a little of the inspiration which you have given all library workers in the state. I feel, though, that as a spectator I have been with the majority. Dr. Draper tells us that there are 395 public libraries in the state, and yet at our annual meetings if each one present should be registered as from a different library, not half of these would be represented—which would indicate that there is a much larger body from which we could draw had we plans of state work needing more help than we have at hand. With the A. L. A. dealing with the more general questions of library policy and library economy, the State Association is free to devote itself to state interests, and particularly in the interests of the work of the majority of its library people who are in the small libraries of the numerous small communities. It is to this association they have a right to look for help, encouragement and inspiration.

"The history of public library work in New York State is a long and an honorable one, all the states having benefited by its example and the impulse it has given to the spread of the library idea.

"We must not rest if we wish to keep our position in these days of active state work, for others are pressing forward aided by the concentration of their state library associations upon state work and in their aid of the state authorities. I think we would be fully justified in working for 'the greatest good of the greatest number' *within the state* and in arousing a state feeling and state enthusiasm to the end of bettering the library conditions in New York."

Following the president's address, the Committee on the Constitution presented the revised constitution, consideration of which was, on motion, deferred until a later session.

The chair then appointed a Nominating Committee, consisting of Mr. Eastman, Miss Plummer and Miss Underhill, instructing them to report at the Wednesday evening session.

The meeting then adjourned.

The Tuesday evening session opened with a large attendance. The business of the meeting was begun with the reading by the secretary of a list of twenty-three names of those proposed for membership in the association, who were on motion elected. A telegram received from Mr. Leland was read stating that he would be unable to attend the meetings of the association.

The president announced that owing to the inability of Dr. Downing and Miss Mendenhall to be present on that evening, the program for Tuesday would be given instead on Thursday and that Mrs. Donley and Mr.

Anderson had consented to read their papers at the present session. Mr. Anderson, as first speaker, described at length the various activities of the State Library and outlined the work of the Education Extension Division, a section closely affiliated with the State Library but wholly concerned with the library interests of the state outside of Albany. Among these activities, aside from the direction of the New York State Library School, he mentioned the supplementing of collections of local libraries and individuals by the lending of books by the state, the aid given to the smaller libraries in the selection of books for purchase and the work of the Department for the Blind.

At the conclusion of his paper, he announced that the State Education Department proposed to appoint two library organizers, whose duties should be "to work in the field throughout the state, encouraging the establishment of new public libraries, invigorating and helping to reorganize dormant libraries; advertising and placing travelling libraries, and generally stimulating library development and the reading habit, especially among the villages, hamlets and the rural communities of the state." Mr. Anderson also called attention to various publications of the State Library, among which he mentioned *New York Libraries*, a new quarterly, the main purpose of which is to maintain free communication with the libraries of the state, to answer their inquiries and promote their efficiency.

A lively discussion followed, opened by Mr. W. H. Seward, of Binghamton, who maintained that in supplying books to the women's clubs of his city, the State Library was interfering with the work of the local library. He argued that the local library was entitled to the support of its constituency, and in so far as the local library could meet local needs, it should be permitted to supply them. Mr. Mundy, of Syracuse, Miss Henderson, of Jamestown, and Miss Davis, of Troy, acknowledged their indebtedness to the State Travelling Library Department, but stated, however, that the libraries loaned to their communities had been borrowed and were circulated through the medium of the local library, thus supplementing their collections, but not duplicating them as in the case of Binghamton.

Angeline Scott Donley followed with a paper on "The New York Public Library and the schools," in which she gave an interesting account of the growth and development of the work of the New York Public Library with the schools, which has resulted in a close co-operation of librarians and teachers throughout the city. She stated that this had been accomplished through the work of the library supervisor, the Travelling Library Department and the school assistant, the latter being a branch assistant who devotes her time to visiting schools, attending to school requests and all allied work. Re-

sults have been accomplished, not only by loaning books on request, but also through bulletin board work, notices, circular letters, visiting and public addresses. Mr. Gaillard, supervisor of the work with schools in the New York Public Library, stated that the New York Public Library tried to supplement the work of the Board of Education.

The meeting then adjourned.

The business before the Association at the meeting on Wednesday evening was the consideration of the revised constitution as submitted by the committee at the opening session.

On motion it was voted that the constitution take effect immediately.

The Nominating Committee then reported the following ticket: For president, Edwin H. Anderson; for vice-president, Ezekiel W. Mundy; for secretary, Josephine A. Rathbone; for treasurer, Edwin W. Gaillard. The president called attention to the provision of the revised constitution in regard to nominations and stated that the election would occur at the closing session on Friday.

The president then introduced Mr. Cedric Chivers, who gave a most instructive talk on book-binding. He explained the different kinds of treatment demanded by various types of books, and dwelt especially on the difficulties of modern book-binding, but largely to the poor quality of much of the paper used for books, especially for fiction and children's books. The general interest in this important subject was manifested by the number of practical questions asked by those present.

Dr. Bostwick's illuminating paper on "Some recent books of an interesting type" was enthusiastically received, although the lateness of the hour precluded discussion. He dealt with books which "are collections of facts, either absolutely unmixed with fiction or very slightly so mixed, grouped in fictitious relationship to give greater interest, thereby constituting a fraud on the public." He cited a number of instances in illustration of this type of book and stated that one trouble with this latest form of literary fraud is that it so often leaves the reader, to say nothing of the cataloger, quite doubtful as to whether he has been dealing with history or biography or fiction. Many of the books selected as illustrations were the work of journalists, and so raised the interesting question as to the moral effect of the modern newspaper on its staff. Among the books cited were "Indiscreet letters from Peking," "As the Hague ordains," "The letters of a Chinese official," etc.

The meeting then adjourned.

The Thursday session of the association entered on the program, postponed from Tuesday, opened with the report of the Committee on Normal Schools, read by Miss Plummer, chairman of the committee. The report outlined fully the conditions of instruction in library management and the use

of books in the normal schools of the state, information in regard to which had been obtained by the committee in answer to a series of questions sent out to the normal schools of Albany, Brockport, Buffalo, Cortland, Fredonia, Geneseo, New Paltz, Oneonta, Oswego, Plattsburgh and Potsdam. The report showed that very few of the New York State normal schools provide definite instruction in the use of libraries and none give technical instruction in the care and administration of books. The report further gave the letter sent by the committee, communicating the facts of the case with suggestions and a plea for co-operation, to the Normal Principals' Council, at its annual meeting, together with the reply of that council. This reply, though appreciative of the needs of the case, was one of hope for the future rather than of promise for present improvement, owing to lack of means.

The report of the Committee on Normal Schools was followed by Miss Mendenhall's paper on "Library instruction in Normal schools," which elucidated and extended the subject as outlined in the report. Miss Mendenhall considered first the need of library instruction in normal schools, secondly how this need has or rather has not thus far been met, and thirdly what should constitute a normal school course; taking up each topic singly and giving a strong and convincing statement of the questions as viewed by her.

Dr. Downing, Assistant Commissioner of Education, was then introduced by the president. Dr. Downing conveyed to the association cordial greetings from Dr. Draper, Commissioner of Education, and assured the association of their hearty sympathy with the desire of the association to promote library instruction in the normal schools of the state. He stated, however, that there were certain obstacles in the way of its immediate accomplishment, the first being the already crowded state of curricula of the normal schools and the impossibility of lengthening the course at present owing to the existing dearth of teachers in the state, and the second, the requirements of the Civil Service Commission, in accordance with which the positions can be filled only by licensed teachers, with library training. Dr. Downing pointed out that there is great opportunity for effective work with the training classes which provide teachers for the district schools throughout the state, and he expressed the hope that the library organizers soon to be appointed by the state would devote their efforts to the villages and country districts rather than to the towns and cities. The implication that this field was a neglected one brought forth a spirited protest from Miss Stearns and Miss Askew, library organizers of Wisconsin and New Jersey, who proved effectively that library organizers were willing to suffer much personal discomfort for the cause, Miss Stearns speaking at some length on the work done

by the state for the country district of Wisconsin. Miss Kelso suggested that the libraries need not wait until the state appoints a librarian for each normal school, showing how one library had paved the way for a regular librarian by loaning one of its own assistants to aid in the work at the normal school.

The last session of the meeting was held on Friday evening. The president called for the reports of various committees.

The Auditing Committee reported that the treasurer's books had been examined and found correct.

Mr. Eastman for the Committee on Legislation reported as follows:

Chap. 164, Laws of New York, 1907, re-incorporated the "Queens Borough Library" as the "Queens Borough Public Library," giving the trustees power to choose successors with the approval of the mayor of New York, absolute control of the expenditure of money appropriated for the library by the city and absolute power to appoint and fix the salaries of their officers and employees.

Chap. 165, enlarges the limit of money to be spent by the city of Mount Vernon for free public and school libraries to \$10,000 a year. This limit in 1894 was \$2000, in 1896 increased to \$2500, in 1901 to \$4000, and in 1903 fixed at \$7000.

Chap. 606, amends the university law, sections 36 and 45. The power to accept gifts conditioned on a specified annual appropriation. Thereafter which power was given to any municipality or district, was extended to any public library in the university if so authorized by the municipality, district or city council. The power to transfer a library to a library in the university was extended so as to authorize the transfer of a library to a municipality, conditionally or otherwise.

Chap. 646, amends the business corporations law so that an educational institution which may be incorporated under the University law cannot be incorporated under the business corporations law.

Chap. 693, amending the tax law in regard to exemptions, provides that in villages of the third and fourth class, that is, in all villages of less than 3000 population, the real estate of a free public library shall be exempt from tax so far as the income of it is used for library purposes.

It was then voted, on motion made by Mr. Eastman, that the vote by which the constitution was adopted be reconsidered for the purpose of changing the form of the constitution. It was voted that the constitution as finally amended be adopted.

1. Name

This association shall be called the New York Library Association.

2. Object

Its object shall be to promote library interests in the State of New York.

3. Members

Any person interested in the object of the association may become a member by vote of the Executive Board on payment to the treasurer of a registration fee of one dollar. In each succeeding year beginning Jan. 1 a membership fee of one dollar shall be paid.

4. Officers

The officers of the association shall be a president, a vice-president, a secretary and a treasurer, who shall be elected by ballot at each annual meeting and shall serve till the close of the meeting at which their successors are chosen. The officers, with the president of the preceding term shall constitute an Executive Board, which shall appoint all standing committees, act for the association in intervals between the meetings, fill any vacancy in office for the rest of the year and make arrangements for the annual meeting.

5. Nominations

At the opening session of each annual meeting the president shall appoint three members to prepare an official ballot containing one name for each vacancy to be filled. This ballot shall be submitted to the association not less than forty-eight hours, if practicable, before the time of the annual election. Any other nominations signed by five members and filed with the secretary twenty-four hours before the election, shall be added to the official ballot.

6. Meetings

The annual meeting of the association shall be held in one of the months from May to October, inclusive, at the call of the Executive Board. Other meetings may be held by similar appointment.

7. Payments

No officer, committee or member of the association shall incur any expense in its name unless authorized by vote of the association or by the Executive Board, nor shall the treasurer make any payment except for expenditures so authorized and on vouchers approved in writing by the president.

8. Amendments

This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at an annual meeting if notice of the proposed change has been given in the call for the meeting.

The president called for an expression of opinion from the various members of the association as to the time and place of the next meeting. The Sagamore Hotel at Lake George and Watkins Glen were the only suggestions offered as to places, while opinions as to time varied considerably, some being in favor of the third week in September, while others held that the fourth week would be preferable. It was finally decided that the question be left to the incoming Executive Committee for decision.

The report of the Nominating Committee was read by the secretary and there being no other nominations the secretary was instructed to cast one ballot for the entire ticket and the following were declared elected:

For president, Edwin H. Anderson, State Library, Albany.

For vice-president, Ezekiel W. Mundy, Syracuse Public Library.

For secretary, Josephine A. Rathbone, Pratt Institute Library School, Brooklyn.

For treasurer, Edwin W. Gaillard, New York Public Library.

On motion it was voted that there should be appointed standing committees on legislation and institutes, each to consist of three members to be appointed by the Executive Committee, one selected each year to serve three years.

The report of the Committee on Resolutions was accepted and adopted as follows:

"At the 17th annual meeting of the New York Library Association, the Committee on Resolutions presents the following report for your consideration:

"A message to Miss Helen E. Haines prompted by our regret that illness prevents her attendance at the conference, was sent as follows:

"The New York Library Association in full session sends you heartiest greeting."

"Resolved, that the New York Library Association hereby expresses its recognition and cordial appreciation of the successful efforts of the State Education Department to establish and further the various lines of work suggested by the association at its last meeting; and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the commissioner of education by the secretary.

"The New York Library Association wishes to express its appreciation of the courtesies extended by the management of the Hotel Rexmere during the conference."

The session closed with a most interesting lecture by Mr. De Lancey M. Ellis on "Visual instruction," illustrated by lantern slides. His talk resulted in many valuable suggestions as to the possibilities of the stereopticon in educational work generally and in lecture work in the public libraries in particular.

The devotion of the entire meeting to the single subject of the relation of the library and the school in its various phases proved a decided step forward and the presence of the assistant commissioner of education, resulting in much spirited discussion, will doubtless make the results of this meeting far-reaching. THERESA HITCHLER, Secretary.

Round Tables

Round tables were held on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, respectively, with a large attendance at each.

The first, on "Library work with children" was conducted by Miss Clara W. Hunt, of

the Brooklyn Public Library. The chief topics of discussion were "The selection of books" and "The problem of books" for children. Miss Grace Thompson, of the Brooklyn Public Library, whose paper is printed in full in another part of this number, introduced the first subject. Miss Clara W. Herbert, of the Public Library of Washington, D. C., and Miss Caroline M. Underhill, of the Utica Public Library, opened the discussion of the second topic. Miss Underhill's paper bore on the intermediate period in children's reading, in which she pointed out the difficulties and problems of holding and guiding the young people of the age of the first year high school pupil in paths of acceptable reading. The paper gave practical suggestions in method of meeting this difficulty. The meeting was well attended and the discussion lively and spontaneous.

Miss Rose G. Murray, of the Springfield Public Library, presided at the second Round Table on the "Physical care of books," and outlined her methods of dealing with books which were ready for rebinding or too much worn to go to the binder's, with practical demonstrations illustrating each point as she went along. She was ably supported by Miss Van Pelt, chief mender of the New York Public Library, and Mr. Evans, of the Brooklyn Public Library, while Mr. Chivers answered freely all questions asked him, and others present participated in the discussion, which called forth many helpful suggestions.

American Library Association

President: Arthur E. Bostwick, New York Public Library.

Secretary: J. I. Wyer, Jr., State Library, Albany, N. Y.

Executive officer: E. C. Hovey, A. L. A. Headquarters, 34 Newbury street, Boston.

PROCEEDINGS OF EXECUTIVE BOARD

Synopsis of proceedings of Executive Board of the American Library Association at a meeting held in Stamford, N. Y., September 26, 1907.

Committee on Co-operation with N. E. A.

Miss Irene Warren, librarian of the School of Education, Chicago University, was appointed chairman of this committee to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Miss M. E. Ahern.

Printing of A. L. A. Catalog Rules.

Voted, That the printing of the catalog rules be entrusted to the Publishing Board in accordance with their letters of May 25 and Sept. 19, 1907, and in conformity with the requirements of the Committee on Catalog Rules.

Editor for Bulletin.

Voted, That the selection of material for the November number of the A. L. A. Bul-

letin be entrusted to the executive officer and that on and after Jan. 1, 1908, the secretary be entrusted with the editorship of the Bulletin.

Report from Program Committee.

The Program Committee having in charge the selection and preparation of the proceedings of the Asheville Conference made a final report to the Executive Board, reciting some of the difficulties encountered in their work and making some suggestions for the guidance of future committees.

Minnetonka Conference.

Communications were received from the local committee at Minneapolis indicating accommodations for about 800 people and quoting hotel rates. The Executive Board fixed upon June 25-July 1 as tentative dates for the conference, to be determined definitely after correspondence with the local committee.

Sale of A. L. A. Proceedings.

Voted, That the proceedings of the Asheville Conference be sold to A. L. A. members and members of affiliated organizations at \$1 net and to all others at \$2 up to the date of the 1908 conference.

Resignation of Executive Officer.

Mr. E. C. Hovey, executive officer of the association, tendered his resignation to take effect January 1, 1908. It was *Voted*, that the resignation of Mr. Hovey be accepted, with thanks for the services he has rendered to the association.

Report from Finance Committee.

Mr. Hopkins, treasurer of the association, on behalf of the Finance Committee presented a communication authorizing a budget aggregating \$1250, within which appropriations may be made by the Executive Board covering the expenses of the association till not later than January 1, 1908. This report was accepted and the president thereupon appointed a committee consisting of Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Andrews and Mr. Wyer to prepare a budget in accordance with the action of the Finance Committee. After conference this committee reported the following figures:

E. C. Hovey, salary	\$325.00
Secretary, salary	70.00
Rent (Headquarters)	333.33
Stenographer (Headquarters)	266.67
Treasurer's office	25.00
Handbook	200.00
Incidentals, including the November Bulletin	30.00
	\$1250.00

This report of appropriation within the budget permitted by the Finance Committee was duly accepted.

J. I. WYER, JR., Secretary.

HANDBOOK

The A. L. A. Bulletin for September constitutes the handbook, including, besides the usual contents of previous handbooks, a geographical list of libraries and other institution members classified by states and towns. It is to be regretted that this should not include also libraries represented by individual members, possibly with name-reference to such members. The handbook is of good typography, though somewhat less convenient in form than previous issues.

PROCEEDINGS, 1907

The July number of the *Bulletin of the American Library Association* (v. 1, no. 4), devoted to the Proceedings of the Asheville Conference, appeared and was mailed to members early in September. This volume of Proceedings is the first to be issued by the A. L. A. Publishing Board, the compilation and editing having been done by the secretary, Mr. Wyer, in consultation with the program committee, and the volume having been seen through the press by Miss Nina E. Browne, of the Publishing Board. For the first time since the organization of the American Library Association the Proceedings appear solely in this form. The volume will be sent only to members of the Association whose dues are paid for 1907, and will not be distributed or sold outside the membership. It is announced that the edition is limited, and that any library desiring to obtain a copy should make early application for membership. The Proceedings cover 325 pages, including the transactions of the affiliated societies (State Libraries, League of Library Commissions, Law Libraries), thus ranging with or exceeding in size the record of previous larger conferences, for the total attendance at Asheville was but 478. The arrangement differs from that of previous volumes, in that the papers and the report of proceedings are not grouped separately, but given as one continuous record, in the order in which the program was actually carried out. This, of course, fairly re-creates the atmosphere of the conference, though it has disadvantages in breaking the sequence of related papers, such as those dealing with the "Use of books," and is, perhaps, less attractive in appearance.

COMMITTEE ON BOOKBINDING

The following books can now be had in editions specially bound for library use, at an extra cost not exceeding 10 cents a volume. They may be ordered either direct from the publisher or through regular agents. Care should be taken in giving orders to specify the library edition:

Bass, Stories of pioneer life. Heath.
Burgess, Goops and how to be them. Stokes.
Deming, Little red people. Stokes.

Norton, Heart of oak books, 1, 2, and 3. Heath.

—, Only true Mother Goose. Lothrop.

Peary, Children of the Arctic. Stokes.

Poulsion, Runaway donkey. Lothrop.

—, Through the farmyard gate. Lothrop.

Snedden, Docas, the Indian boy. Heath.

Ward, Our little Japanese cousin. Page.

REPORT OF THE PUBLISHING BOARD

The fall meeting of the Publishing Board was held in Boston, on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Oct. 1-3, 1907, all of the members being present, namely, Mr. H. E. Legler, chairman; Mr. C. C. Soule, treasurer; Mr. W. C. Lane, Mr. H. C. Wellman, Mrs. H. L. Elmendorf.

It was voted that at the discretion of the editor the *A. L. A. Booklist* be issued 10 times a year instead of eight; and that it should occasionally include desirable books of an earlier date than the current year, if for any reason they had escaped attention or it had not been possible to estimate their value at time of publication.

The Board gave careful consideration to a request of the A. L. A. Executive Board that a discount on the Publishing Board publications be granted to all members of the Association.

That such a discount might increase the membership was granted, but to allow it would necessitate an increase in the advertised selling price. To the suggestion that the A. L. A. was entitled to a discount on the same ground as other large trade buyers, it was objected that this reason for a discount was valid only if the A. L. A. took the Board's publications in quantities, and itself distributed to its members.

That it would be a breach of trust to favor members of the A. L. A. at the expense of persons and institutions not members was also suggested, and finally the chairman was directed to reply to the Executive Board that serious doubt having arisen in the minds of the members whether the Board is justified in making a discount under the terms of the Carnegie gift, the Board must defer action until further light can be obtained.

The treasurer was authorized to pay such portion as might seem necessary of the \$500 which the Publishing Board had guaranteed toward the payment of the salary of the executive officer.

The treasurer was also authorized to pay to the A. L. A. the net proceeds of the sale of Proceedings up to date as recorded on the accounts of the Publishing Board, and continue to make similar payments.

The Board voted to accept the \$100 allowed by the Executive Board for editorial services on the Proceedings of 1907.

The need of books in different languages to teach the foreign born residents about American history, institutions and ideals was

brought to the attention of the Board and the possibility was discussed of causing translations of certain American books to be made for this purpose. To furnish such translations seemed to be outside the field of the Board, but it was voted to request Mrs. Elmendorf to compile a list of English works translations of which would be useful, and report to the Board for further consideration.

About 100 library plans and illustrations for an architectural tract having been collected, they were inspected with a view to reproduction, and the issue of this tract was referred to Mr. Legler.

The Executive Board having voted that the A. L. A. Catalog Rules be printed by the Publishing Board in conformity with the requirements of the A. L. A. Committee on Catalog Rules, the Publishing Board voted to undertake the printing in accordance with those recommendations, and to ask Mr. Hanson, the chairman, to submit copy as early as possible.

Library tract no. 10, "Material for a public library campaign," by Chalmers Hadley, was shown and the printer's bill submitted. The price was placed at five cents per single copy and \$2 per 100.

The following new undertakings were proposed and referred to individual members of the Board for later report.

1. Index to fairy tales and short stories compiled at the Springfield City Library.

2. Reading list on library administration by Elva Bascom, of the New York State Library.

3. Book tests by Mrs. Fairchild.

4. A scheme of book numbers and an index thereto by William Borden.

The German list so long delayed is at last ready for distribution. Price, 50 c.

The list of Hungarian books is in type and will be ready this month.

State Library Commissions

WISCONSIN FREE LIBRARY COMMISSION

By action of the Wisconsin legislature, which adjourned in July, the appropriation at the disposal of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission was increased from \$23,500 to \$34,000. Of this sum \$15,000 is to be devoted to the purposes of the Legislative Reference Library managed by the commission. The work of this department will be largely amplified, among the work in contemplation being the following:

A card index and loose leaf arrangement of thesections comprised in the revised statutes, together with the amendments thereto since the last consolidated publication thereof, this material to serve as the basis for a revision of the statutes of the state.

Special indexes to the private and local laws of the state; to the messages of the governors and the special topics treated in their communications; indexes to the reports of investigating and special committees of the

legislature; index to franchises granted since the establishment of statehood; and many other topical indexes that will prove of special value in connection with proposed legislation.

The recent legislation also dealt liberally with the Wisconsin State Historical Society, adding \$5000 per annum to its current maintenance fund, and reverting to the society \$11,000 which had lapsed, through a technicality, and which will be used in making many needed improvements within the building occupied by the society and by the university library.

State Library Associations

CALIFORNIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The Second District of the California Library Association held a meeting at Palo Alto on July 6, 1907. There were two sessions, the first being held in the library at Stanford University and the second in the parlors of the Congregational Church at Palo Alto.

A visit was made first to the Stanford University Bookstore, "a bookstore which looks like a library," where Mr. Hyde, its manager, showed the fittings and explained the methods of filing and keeping records. Then, after a rapid survey of the university quadrangle, the morning session was called to order by Mrs. A. G. Whitbeck, president. Mr. Dodge, of the university library, gave a brief address of welcome. Mr. W. F. Hyde's talk on "Bookselling by a bookseller" was very much enjoyed. He brought out the interesting fact that there are two or possibly three times as many books sold by subscription as through retail book stores. Nearly all law books, medical books, encyclopedias and many reference works are thus sold, for the reason that the publishers would be bankrupt if they depended on regular booksellers. Mr. Hyde told of the preparation given in Europe for the bookseller's profession, which in one particular case covered a period of eight years. He spoke also of the discounts given to libraries and to the trade, and of other pertinent matters. His talk provoked an interesting discussion.

In the absence of Mr. Charles S. Greene, Mr. F. I. Bamford, of the Oakland Free Library, gave a talk on "The acquisition of pictures and other works of art," enumerating the underlying principles and speaking of the system in use in Oakland of receiving loans of good pictures for definite periods. He mentioned also the influence of flowers in a library. This was supplemented by Mrs. Whitbeck, who told of her work in connection with the children's room and gave suggestions of value to the small library. This was followed by a discussion.

At the afternoon session, to which the public was invited, Professor Rolfe, of Stanford University, gave a most delightful lecture on Robert Louis Stevenson. Then followed a visit to the Public Library, where light refreshment was served before the visitors left to take the train.

NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The New Jersey Library Association will hold its annual meeting on the afternoon and evening of Wednesday, Oct. 30, 1907, in the State House at Trenton. At the afternoon session there will be an address by the president, the usual business meeting, and a discussion of two papers. The New Jersey Library Commission will also present a statement summarizing its work during the year. At the evening session Dr. James H. Canfield, of Columbia University, will speak on the "Public library and its policy." Mr. John Cotton Dana, of Newark, will speak on "Anticipations," and the Governor of the state will deliver an address on "The public library and the state." The Trenton House will be the headquarters of the association, and a detailed program will be mailed on request by the secretary, Miss M. L. Prevost, Public Library, Elizabeth, N. J.

Library Schools and Training Classes

CARNEGIE LIBRARY, ATLANTA, LIBRARY TRAINING SCHOOL

The students assembled on Monday, Sept. 23, for a week's preliminary practice work.

The formal beginning of the third session of the school took place at 10 o'clock, Sept. 30.

The exercises opened with a prayer by the Rev. A. R. Holderby, which was followed by an address from Mr. George Howard, president of the board of trustees of the Carnegie Library of Atlanta.

Mr. Robert Foreman, vice-president of the board, then made a short talk, and the program ended with the address of the director of the library school, Miss Anne Wallace.

At luncheon Miss Wallace entertained the faculty of the school, the members of the class, and the presidents of the classes of 1906 and 1907.

The amended list of the students is as follows:

Annie Angier, Atlanta, Ga.
Pauline Benson, Augusta, Ga.
Inez Daughtry, Jackson, Ga.
Mrs. Julia Dillon, Augusta, Ga.
Cara Hutchins, Atlanta, Ga.
Jessie Hutchinson, Atlanta, Ga.
Alberta Malone, Atlanta, Ga.
Mildred Mell, Athens, Ga.
Mary Pettigrew, Tryon, N. C.
Louise Smith, Bolton, Ga.

CARNEGIE LIBRARY OF PITTSBURGH TRAINING SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN'S LIBRARIANS

Miss Faith Smith, New York State Library School, 1900, has resigned her position as librarian of the Public Library of Sedalia, Mo., to become director's assistant in the Training School for Children's Librarians. Miss Smith has made a study of library methods of work with children and during the coming year she will be a special student in the training school.

Miss Jeanette Steenberg, daughter of Dr. Andreas Steenberg, librarian of the Royal College, Horsens, Denmark, arrived in New York early in September en route for Pittsburgh where she will be a student in the training school. Miss Dina Sellag, of Hammerfest, Norway, arrives in Pittsburgh about Oct. 1. Miss Sellag will also be a member of this year's class.

CHAUTAUQUA LIBRARY SCHOOL

The seventh annual session of the Chautauqua Library School opened July 6 and continued till Aug. 16, under the directorship of Melvil Dewey, with Mary E. Downey as resident director, assisted by Sabra W. Vought and Faith E. Smith.

Mr. Dewey gave lectures through the first week on "The public library and the juvenile problem," "Qualifications of a librarian," "Efficiency," "Methods," "Time-savers," "Buildings," and "Classification." Miss Mary E. Ahern was with the school a week, lecturing as follows: "The librarian's duty to the public and the library," "The librarian's duty to herself," "Salaries, hours, vacations," "Business methods." Dr. Eliza M. Mosher addressed the school on "The health of the library staff" and "Books on hygiene." Mrs. Sarah Platt-Decker, president of the Federation Library Extension Department, discussed "Extension work" and "The relation of the library to the women's clubs," viewing the library from the standpoint of the women's clubs and making many helpful suggestions. Miss Edna D. Bullock lectured on "Simplifying work in the small library." Mr. Henry E. Legler lectured on "Reports, advertising and statistics," "The public library and modern education," "In the land of make believe," a survey of child literature, and Miss Mary E. Hazeltine on "Principles of reference work."

The course of study included library organization and administration, cataloging, classification, reference work and bibliography. Lectures were given in library history, accessioning, shelf-listing, book numbers, alphabetizing, binding and mending. Lectures were followed by practice work, which was carefully revised. Opportunity was given for questions and discussion of problems relating to library experience. The Chautauqua and Patterson libraries were used for reference and practical work.

Visits were made to the James Prendergast Library, Art Metal Construction Company, Buffalo Public Library, Niagara Falls Public Library, and to the Arts and Crafts Village of Chautauqua with special reference to book binding.

DREXEL INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL

Miss Charlotte K. Hannum, class of 1901, who has been in charge of the delivery desk in the Drexel Institute Library for the past five years, was married on Sept. 11 to Mr. Charles Henry Sykes, of Williamsport, Pa.

Miss Miriam B. Wharton, class of 1902, has been appointed instructor in the Library School to succeed Miss M. Louise Hunt.

Miss Margaret E. Neal, class of 1901, was married in September to Mr. Henry Carl Karr, of Washington, D. C.

Miss Grace P. Baldwin, class of 1899, was married on Sept. 25 to Mr. Israel Losey White.

Miss Ora I. Smith, class of 1903, has been appointed librarian of the University of Alabama.

Miss Elizabeth V. Clark, class of 1900, is engaged in the re-organizing of Swarthmore College Library.

Miss Marian B. Miracle, class of 1907, has been appointed assistant in the College of Physicians' Library, Philadelphia.

INDIANA SUMMER LIBRARY SCHOOL

The sixth summer school for librarians, conducted by the Public Library Commission of Indiana, was held at Winona Lake, July 8-Aug. 17, 1907. It was as successful a school as has been held in this state, and all but two of the students were from Indiana.

The attendance at the summer school was limited by the commission, as it was believed that more personal work could be done with a smaller number of students than with a large class. There were eleven regular and four special students.

The collection of books at the summer school was selected to illustrate definite problems in library work and throughout the course much practice in technical work was given. Instruction in technical processes was given by Miss Anna R. Phelps; classification and work with children, by Miss Carrie E. Scott; bibliography and reference work, Mr. Arne Kildal; administration, Miss Merica Hoagland; book binding, Miss Lovina Knowlton, and buildings and furnishings by Mr. Chalmers Hadley.

Special lectures were given by Mr. Amos Butler, secretary of the State Board of Charities and Correction; Mr. Demarchus C. Brown, state librarian; Professor Harlow Lindley, Earlham College; Miss Virginia C. Tutt, president Indiana Library Association; Mr. Jacob P. Dunn, president Public Library Commission of Indiana; Mrs. Elizabeth C. Earl; Mr. Henry E. Legler, secretary of the

Wisconsin Free Library Commission, and Miss Georgia H. Reynolds, librarian of the Travelling Libraries, Public Library Commission.

IOWA SUMMER LIBRARY SCHOOL

The seventh session of the Iowa Summer Library School was held, as usual, under the auspices of the Iowa Library Commission, as a part of the summer session of the State University of Iowa, at Iowa City, during the six weeks from June 17 to July 27. The number of students for the regular course was limited to 20, according to the rules of the school, but three extra students were allowed to register for the course on children's work, under Miss Lyman.

Miss Harriet E. Howe, head cataloger of the State University of Iowa Library, gave the instruction in cataloging, accession and shelf work. Miss Irene Warren, librarian of the School of Education in the University of Chicago, was the instructor in classification and in binding. Miss Edna Lyman, of Oak Park, Ill., had charge of the instruction in work with children. Miss Webber, librarian of the Iowa City Public Library, gave the loan work. The lectures on administration were given by Miss Alice S. Tyler, director of the school, and those on reference work and trade bibliography by Mr. Malcolm G. Wyer, resident director. Special lectures were given during the course by Miss Ahern, of *Public Libraries*; Miss Tobitt, of the Omaha Public Library; Miss Rose, of the Davenport Public Library; Miss Wood, of the Cedar Rapids Public Library; Mr. M. H. Douglass, of the Grinnell College Library; Miss Wheelock, of the Grinnell Public Library; Dr. Shambaugh, of the State University; Miss Carey, of the Iowa Institution Libraries, and by Mrs. Towner and Mrs. Howe, members of the Iowa Library Commission.

A valuable feature of the school was the opportunity given the students to attend the district meeting of the Southeastern District of the Iowa Library Association, which was held in Iowa City on July 16 and 17.

Miss Warren also gave a course of 12 lectures, open to students of the University Summer Session, designed to show the importance of the library to teachers, and to help them in their use of the school and the public library as an aid to their school work.

The entire school spent one day visiting the libraries in Cedar Rapids, including the Coe College, the Masonic and Free Public libraries. A very enjoyable luncheon was given the members of the school at the public library by the library trustees.

The usual custom was followed of securing a fraternity house, where the students could live together and become well acquainted with each other and with the instructors. The social features of the session included a re-

ception at the home of President and Mrs. MacLean, a picnic given by the Library Club in Iowa City, a launch ride on the river with a picnic supper, at which Miss Switzer and Miss Felkner, of the Iowa City Library Board, were hostesses, several afternoon "at homes" by Miss Harriet E. Howe and her mother, and a surprise party for Miss Warren at the fraternity house.

The following is a list of the students:

Basten, Mrs. Adah. Kearney, Neb.
Broderick, Louise L. Mason City, Ia.
Bryant, Mrs. Charlotte. Newton, Ia.
Clark, Carrie B. Clinton, Ia.
Crouse, Lucile S. Ft. Madison, Ia.
Cutler, Flora G. Waterloo, Ia.
Denny, Eva G. Washington, Ia.
Duncan, Mrs. Laura M. Albia, Ia.
Frank, Mrs. Pauline. Kearney, Neb.
Gibbs, Stella O. Councils Bluffs, Ia.
Gregory, Winifred. Waterloo, Ia.
Hauk, Grace E. Peoria, Ill.
Hicks, Gratia. Monticello, Ia.
Houston, Mrs. Mattie C. Corsicana, Texas.
Hughes, Ruth P. Freeport, Ill.
Jefferson, Sue M. Clinton, Ia.
Lillis, Dolores G. Clinton, Ia.
McKibbin, Mrs. Florence. Mt. Pleasant, Ia.
McWilliams, Emma. Fulton, Mo.
Penrose, Alma M. Grinnell, Ia.
Taylor, Florence S. Hopkinton, Ia.
Vittum, Bertha. Fargo, N. D.
Wood, Mrs. Olive. Baldwin, Kan.

NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL

The 22d year of the school opened Wednesday, Oct. 2, with the following registration:

CLASS OF 1908

Adsit, R. Lionne. Voorheesville, N. Y. B.A. Vassar College, 1906.
Coffin, Helen, Albany, N. Y. B.A. Cornell University, 1906; assistant New York State Library, 1907.
Compton, Charles Herrick, Lincoln, Neb. B.A. University of Nebraska, 1901; librarian Y. M. C. A. Library, Albany, N. Y., 1906-07.
Cooper, Isabella Mitchell, Troy, N. Y. B.A. Barnard College, 1901; Columbia University, 1901-07; New York Public Library Training Class, 1904-05; assistant instructor New York Public Library Training Class, 1905-07.
Fay, Lucy Ella, Knoxville, Tenn. B.A. Newcomb Memorial College, 1895; M.A. University of Texas, 1901.
Hart, Fanny, New York City. B.A. Vassar College, 1898; Teachers' College, Columbia University, 1898-99; assistant New York Public Library, 1904-06.
Holding, Anna Lucille, Albany, N. Y. B.A. Oberlin College, 1901; West Virginia University Summer School, 1902, 1903; assistant Catalog Section New York State Library, 1906.

- McVety, Margaret A., Iron Mountain, Mich. B.A. Colorado College, 1901; assistant Colorado College Library, 1896-1900; cataloger Public Library, Colorado Springs, 1900; librarian High School Library, Colorado Springs, 1900-01; librarian Carnegie Library, Iron Mountain, Mich., 1901-07.
- Porter, Charles F., Albany, N. Y. B.A. Hamilton College, 1884; Auburn Theological Seminary, 1884-87.
- Roberts, Ethel Dane, Wausau, Wis. B.A. University of Wooster, 1891.
- Rush, Charles Everett, Fairmount, Ind. B.A. Earlham College, 1905; Wisconsin Free Library Commission Summer School of Library Science, 1904; assistant Earlham College Library, 1904-05; assistant Wisconsin University Library, 1905-06.
- Smith, Elizabeth Manley, Portland, Me. B.A. Vassar College, 1902; assistant New York State Library School, 1907-.
- Stebbins, Howard Leslie, Springfield, Mass. B.A. Amherst College, 1906; assistant Amherst College Library, 1903-07.
- Strange, Joanna Glead, Iowa City, Ia. B.A. State University of Iowa, 1906; assistant Sioux City Public Library, 1899-1901; assistant State University of Iowa Library, 1901-07.
- White, Mabel Gordon, New York City. B.A. Vassar College, 1906.

CLASS OF 1909

- Adams, Leta Emma, Lincoln, Neb. B.A. University of Nebraska, 1906.
- Blair, Irene Elise, Sedalia, Mo. B.A. University of Missouri, 1902.
- Blanchard, Linn Rudolph, Woodstock, Vt. B.A. St. Lawrence University, 1906.
- Culver, Essae Martha, Claremont, Cal. B.L. Pomona College, 1905; assistant Pomona College Library, 1905-07.
- Davis, Mary Herbert, Derry, N.H. B.A. Mt. Holyoke College, 1907.
- Fargo, Lucile Foster, Walla Walla, Wn. Yankton College, 1899-1901; B.L. Whitman College, 1903.
- Field, Agnes Jeannette, Iowa City, Ia. B.A. State University of Iowa, 1907.
- Gray, Florence Brookes, Albany, N. Y. Ph.B. Syracuse University, 1907.
- Greenman, Edward D., Albany, N.Y. Ph.B. Union College, 1904; assistant Division of Educational Extension, New York State Education Department, 1904-07.
- Hardman, Elizabeth, North Adams, Mass. B.A. Wellesley College, 1905; assistant North Adams (Mass.) Public Library, 1906-07.
- Hawks, Blanche Loraine, Keuka Park, N. Y. B.A. Keuka College, 1903.
- Hunter, Grace Elizabeth, Washington, D. C. B.A. University of Nebraska, 1906.
- Langfitt, Frances Stella, Allegheny, Pa. Pennsylvania College for Women, 1896-97; Ph.B. University of Wooster, 1901; assist-

- ant Carnegie Library, Allegheny, Pa., 1901-04; children's librarian, 1905-06.
- Milam, Carl Hastings, Newkirk, Oklahoma. B.A. University of Oklahoma, 1907; assistant University of Oklahoma Library, 1903-07.
- Phipps, Gertrude Eleanor, Dorchester, Mass. B.A. Wellesley College, 1906.
- Quigley, Marjorie McClellan, Pasadena, Cal. B.A. State University of Iowa, 1903.
- Rhodes, Isabella Knox, Niagara Falls, N. Y. B.A. Smith College, 1907; assistant Smith College Library, 1905-07.
- Searcy, Katherine Andrews, Brenham, Texas. B.L. University of Texas, 1906.
- Towner, Isabel Louise, Washington, D. C. B.A. Woman's College of Baltimore, 1906.

RECEPTION

A pleasant reception for the faculty and students was given by Mr. and Mrs. Anderson on Oct. 5.

ALUMNI REUNION

Former students in attendance at the meeting of the New York Library Association at Stamford, Sept. 23-29, dined together with Mrs. Fairchild, Mrs. Anderson and Mrs. Eastman as guests. A roll call by classes showed the following present:

Miss Jones, Miss Plummer, 1888; Miss Baldwin, Miss Underhill, 1889; Miss Feary, Miss Middleton, Miss Wheeler, 1891; Mr. Anderson, Miss Davis, Mr. Eastman, 1892; Miss Rathbone, 1893; Miss Briggs, 1895; Miss Beteridge, Miss Curtis, Mrs. Ledbetter, 1896; Miss Lord, Miss Smith, Miss Thorne, 1897; Miss Hunt, Mr. Wyer, 1898; Miss McKay, 1904; Mr. Solis-Cohen, Mr. Wynkoop, 1905; Mr. Walter, 1906; Miss Blair, 1909.

PRATT INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL
REGISTRATION

The following name should be added to the list of students in the class of 1907-08 of the Pratt Institute Library School:

Martin, Miss Arabel, librarian of the Public Library, Red Wing, Minn.

WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
SCHOOL

The school opened its fourth year on Tuesday afternoon, Sept. 17. At these opening exercises short addresses of welcome were given by the dean, Mr. W. H. Brett, and the director, Miss Whittlesey, followed by a social time of meeting the class.

The courses of instruction for the year are planned on about the same basis and will be carried on by the same instructors as last year, except that the course in book-binding and repair will be given by Miss Griffin, supervisor of binding in the Cleveland Public Library, in short periods of practice work extending over several weeks and emphasizing particularly mending and re-binding. The course in library organization under Miss Eastman's supervision will be some-

what rearranged and in connection with it, Miss Tyler, secretary of the Iowa Library Commission, will give us a more extended course of lectures than she has hitherto done.

During these opening weeks Miss Eastman has been very much missed at the school because of an illness which has confined her at home. She is rapidly improving, however, and we hope that she will soon be with us again. Her library organization work is being carried by Miss Burnite, supervisor of children's work in the Cleveland Public Library, and others.

The class of 1908 numbers 19. There is, in addition to this number, an enrollment of 30 special students who are working in Cleveland libraries. Among these are 9 substitutes of the public library who are taking certain lectures required by the library as part of their training which promotes them to the grade of "assistant."

The register of the class of 1908 is as follows:

Delight Boise Butts, Cleveland, O., graduate Grand Rapids (Mich.) High School, with post-graduate work.

Elizabeth Louise Elterich, Allegheny, Pa., Washington (D. C.) High School; six years assistant in Allegheny Carnegie Free Library.

Florence Louise Gilbert, Painesville, O., three years New Lyme (O.) Institute; graduate Painesville High School; one year Ohio Wesleyan University.

Thirza Eunice Grant, Oberlin, O., one year Oberlin Academy; one year Oliver College (Mich.); A.B. Oberlin College.

Juliet Alice Handerson, Cleveland, O., graduate Cleveland High School; B.L. College for Women, Western Reserve University; assistant Cleveland Public Library, 1902-.

Ruth Adaline Haggood, Warren, O., graduate Warren High School; one year Warren Business College; Chautauqua Summer School, Library Course, 1903; two and a half years assistant Warren Public Library; assistant Cleveland Public Library, 1905-.

Edith M. Hill, Cleveland, O., graduate Toledo (O.) High School; one year post-graduate work at Cleveland High School; Ph.B. College for Women, Western Reserve University; assistant Cleveland Public Library, 1904-.

Edith Maude Jones, Cleveland, O., graduate Cleveland Academy; two years assistant Cleveland Public Library, 1905-.

Mabel Delle Jones, Gallipolis, O., graduate Gallipolis High School; two years Oberlin College; one year Miami University.

Effie M. Marshall, Cleveland, O., graduate Cleveland High School; three years assistant Cleveland Public Library, 1904-.

Mrs. Adaline Crosby Merrill, East Cleveland, O., graduate East Cleveland High School; two years assistant Pittsburgh Carnegie Library; three years assistant Cleveland Public Library.

Edythe A. Prouty, Cleveland, O., graduate Cleveland High School.

Edith Mabel Roberts, Willoughby, O., A.B. Oberlin College.

Marian Spencer Skeele, Painesville, O., graduate Painesville High School; two years Lake Erie College; B.A. Mount Holyoke College; assistant one year (part time) Mount Holyoke Library.

Luella E. Stollberg, Toledo, O., graduate Toledo High School; five months assistant Cleveland Public Library.

Wilda Claire Strong, Plymouth, O., graduate Plymouth High School.

Minnie McDaniel Sweet, Cleveland, O., graduate Cleveland High School; four years assistant librarian Alta House Library, 1903-.

Nouvar H. Tashjian, Smyrna, Turkey, graduate American College Institute (Smyrna); one year Normal Department, American Collegiate Institute; B.A. International College (Smyrna).

Alicia M. Burns, Cleveland, O., graduate Cleveland High School; one-half year College for Women, Western Reserve University; eight months substitute Cleveland Public Library.

WISCONSIN LIBRARY SCHOOL

Instruction began on September 26, with an entering class of 19 students, selected as a result of the competitive examination held in June.

The register of the entering class is as follows:

Emilida Baensch, Manitowoc, Wis., graduate Manitowoc High School; two years Milwaukee-Downer College. Summer session of the Wisconsin Library School, 1906; two years assistant Manitowoc Public Library.

Julia Attie Baker, Stillman Valley, Ill. Theodora Root Brewitt (Mrs.), Spokane, Wash., graduate Spokane High School; one year National Park Seminary, Forest Glen, Md.

Lucile Mary Cully, Kewanee, Ill., graduate Kewanee High School; 6 months apprentice Kewanee Public Library.

Marguerite Cunningham, Milwaukee, Wis., graduate Princeton (Ill.) High School; one year Woman's College of Baltimore; one semester Milwaukee-Downer College.

Winnie Violet Foster, Rhinelander, Wis., graduate Rhinelander High School; 18 months assistant Rhinelander Public Library.

Helen Harwood, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, graduate Cedar Rapids High School; one year apprentice Cedar Rapids Public Library.

Madalene S. Hillis, Omaha, Neb., graduate Omaha High School, with post-graduate work; two years assistant Omaha Public Library.

Ida Maud Hyslop, Hudson, Wis., graduate Hudson High School; one year Winona (Minn.) State Normal School.

Esther Johnston, Logansport, Ind., graduate Logansport High School.
 Clara Alice Lea, Madison, Wis., B.A. University of Wisconsin.
 Nellie Ada Loomis, Columbus, Wis., graduate Columbus High School; one and a half years Ripon College; three years substitute Columbus Public Library.
 Mary Katherine Ray, Kearney, Neb., graduate Kearney High School; Iowa Summer School for Library Training, 1905; three years librarian Kearney Public Library.
 Jennie Sophia Schauers, Oconto, Wis., graduate Oconto High School; Summer School of the Wisconsin Library Commission, 1905; four years assistant Oconto Public Library.
 Mary Frances Sheriff, Helena, Mont., graduate Helena High School; Summer School of the Wisconsin Library Commission, 1904; four years assistant Helena Public Library.
 Vera Sieg, Marshalltown, Iowa, graduate Marshalltown High School; three years assistant Marshalltown Public Library.
 Gladys May Tallett, Marshalltown, Iowa, graduate Marshalltown High School; two years assistant Marshalltown Public Library.
 Ellen Isabel True, Omaha, Neb., graduate Omaha High School; three years University of Nebraska.
 Helen Turvill, Madison, Wis., B.A. University of Wisconsin.
 Mrs. Grace Rathbone Darling, who did part of the work of the first semester with the class of 1907, has returned to complete the course. Miss Zelma Kaiser, under appointment as reference librarian of the Public Library, Duluth, Minn., is taking the reference course in the library school, and history and literature in the University of Wisconsin for the first semester.
 A summary of the list shows: 8 from Wisconsin, 3 each from Iowa and Nebraska, 2 from Illinois, 1 each from Indiana, Montana and Washington. There are 2 university graduates, and 4 have from 1 to 3 years' university or college training; 12 are high school graduates, and 9 of these come with from 1 to 4 years' experience in library work, and 4 with previous library training. As one of the entrance requirements all who had no previous library experience gave at least one month's apprenticeship in an accredited library before the school opened, and all the class come with the ability to use the typewriter, as a special entrance requirement.

SHORT COURSE

It has been decided to transfer the time of the summer session of the school from July and August to the opening weeks of the regular session, and hereafter a Short Course will be conducted for eight weeks in the fall. The course of study will be the same as that

offered in the usual summer session; some of the work will run parallel with the regular school, otherwise separate classes will be held for those taking the short course. The entrance requirements for this course are kept strictly to the standard of those holding library positions and who cannot leave them for the full training of a year's study. Those registered for the Short Course this year are as follows:

Hattie J. Boyd (*Mrs.*), librarian, Public Library, Evansville, Wis.
 Orrena Louise Evans, apprentice, Legislative Reference Library, Madison, Wis.
 Clara Abigail Glenn, librarian, Public Library, Viroqua, Wis.
 Eva Christine Greisen, librarian, Public Library, Sturgeon Bay, Wis.
 Emma May Nowlan, librarian, Carnegie Library, Hastings, Neb.

CLASS NOTES, 1907

Miss Mary E. Bechaud, who has assisted in the recataloging of the Madison Public Library since the close of the school in June has been engaged to act as substitute in the Viroqua (Wis.) Public Library, while the librarian attends the Short Course offered by the school.

Miss Ruth Colville has accepted the position of cataloger in the Racine (Wis.) Public Library, and begins her work Oct. 1.

Miss Mary Colville, special student, has been appointed children's librarian of the Racine Public Library.

Miss Lydia E. Kinsley has been appointed assistant librarian of the Normal School Library at Warrensburg, Mo.

Miss Lola M. B. Green, who served as substitute in the library of the American Society of Civil Engineers in New York City during the summer, has accepted a permanent position in that library.

Miss Margaret B. Reynolds acted as substitute for six weeks in the La Crosse (Wis.) Public Library.

Miss Harriet W. Sewall has resigned her position as assistant in the Minnesota Library Commission to accept a position on the cataloging staff of the Library of the Department of Agriculture, Washington.

Miss Anna Du Pre Smith, who spent the summer in Europe, returned to undertake her duties as children's librarian of the Madison Public Library, as successor to Miss Hannah C. Ellis, who resigned to assume charge of the children's library in the Lawrenceville Branch of the Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh.

Miss Ella V. Ryan has a position with the National Tax Association at Columbus, Ohio.

Miss Marion Wakely is assisting in the organization of the Public Library at Kewanee, Illinois.

Miss Myrtle E. Sette is assisting in the recataloging of the Madison Public Library.

Reviews

BAKER, Ernest A. History in fiction: a guide to the best historical romances, sagas, novels and tales. 2 vols. 1, English fiction; 2, American and foreign fiction. London, 1907. 2 v. S.

For a general definition of historical fiction most people who give thought to the matter can agree easily in drawing the boundary lines; but there is sure to be disagreement among them in the selection of books for admittance within the accepted lines. They will enclose in their classification, by common consent, not merely the fiction that is historical by invention, but a large body of the older literature of fiction which could not be called historical when it was written, but which has been made so by the passage of time; because it affords contemporary delineations of manners, morals, customs, conditions of life, states of mind, in more or less distant generations of the past; and these are sometimes the most precious materials of history that a bygone age passes down.

There can be no criticism of Mr. Baker for having taken into his bibliography this fiction which was not originally historical, but which has grown to be such; and no one can object to his anticipation of the historical character that will accrue by and by to certain novels of real life in quite recent times. It is more likely to be said that, having brought his lists so near to "current history" he should have recognized more of the "history in fiction" which the novelists of our own generations have prepared for the exhibition of it to posterity. And, indeed, his whole selection of novels that are pictorial of the times in which they were written seems too conservative, and somewhat eccentric as well. Why a place should be given, for example, in the middle period of the nineteenth century to the sporting novels of Surtees, and none to the tales of Mrs. Oliphant—not even to the "Chronicles of Carlingsford"—is not easy to understand.

Mr. Baker is much more liberal in his selection from the fiction that is intentionally or professedly historical, composed, that is, by the exercise of an historical imagination, and representing the endeavor of a writer to realize scenes, incidents and characters that were remote from his own time, or from his own experiences in life. Yet these are the most questionable productions in the whole literature of fiction, and those among them which all critics can approve, as of value in their historical character, are exceedingly few. Even a moderately strict criticism, looking to the instructive quality of such works, might cut Mr. Baker's down from two volumes to one.

He has taken the common view, that "though chronology may be at fault, and facts inaccurately stated, a good tale often

succeeds in making a period live in the imagination, when text-books merely give us dry bones." But this ignores the mischief that is done to our conceptions of the past if periods of importance in it are made to live *wrongly* in our imagination, and if their meanings and their lessons are thus perverted to us, by vividly delusive tales. Precisely that is what fascinating romances, professing to be representative of past times and events, are apt to do. Their favorite subjects are incidental to war, and nothing has done more to preserve the glamor of war than the busy writing and reading of tales which make the battles and the tumults of the past so "live in the imagination" of multitudes of people that nothing else in history can interest them. It may be seriously a question whether all that is good in historical fiction might not be sacrificed with profit to the world, if the evil cultivation of a relish for imaginations of war by romances of battle could be stopped therewith. Mr. Baker's lists would shrink to moderate dimensions if those romances were taken out. He catalogs everything (apparently) of Henty's universal fiction-history, which makes most of the wars of the world "live in the imagination" of several recent generations of boys, to the destruction, we fear, of all other conceptions of history, as a subject of desirable knowledge.

But, if Mr. Baker is too liberal in bestowing the honors of a place in his bibliography of historical fiction, he is not to be accused of a careless performance of his work. He makes it evident that he has dwelt knowingly with his books. His annotations to most of the titles give an apt characterization or a terse description or a sound estimate of the quality of the tale. Some opinions which he expresses should consistently have excluded the books in question from his list.

The arrangement of the bibliography is by country and date of subject. England, Scotland, Ireland and the British colonies monopolize one volume, which is filled much more amply than the other, assigned to the remainder of the world. A good index of authors, titles and subjects is given to each volume.

J. N. LARNED.

BROWN, James Duff. Manual of library economy. With illustrations, forms, etc. Rev. ed. London, The Library Supply Co., 1907. xii, 422 p. il. O.

The first edition of Mr. Brown's valuable work, published in 1893, was reviewed at length in the LIBRARY JOURNAL for January, 1904, by Mr. F. B. Bigelow. The first edition, states Mr. Brown in his preface, dated March, 1907, "was addressed in a large measure to library authorities, and various questions of policy were dealt with which have since become generally recognized. It has not been thought desirable to repeat that kind of matter, but to limit the information to sub-

jects connected with organization and administration which fall strictly within the field of library technology. The book has been rearranged throughout, and in parts rewritten, and some fresh chapters have been added in order to make it conform to the teaching syllabus of the Library Association. As now published the Manual is a fairly complete text-book of modern library practice, especially as illustrated in the work of British municipal libraries, and it covers nearly every item, apart from bibliography and literary history, which could reasonably be expected to appear in a professional handbook." Mr. Brown, who writes from his large experience as librarian of the Central Public Library of Islington, one of the most important of the London free libraries, confines himself mostly to approved modern library methods, avoiding general discussion of differences of detail, thus enabling himself to cover in an octavo of little over 400 pages most of the practical subjects on which information is needed, partly by the help of 155 illustrations and tables. His revised edition will be valuable on this side of the water, though it could be wished that we might have a similar book complementing this from the point of view of American experience. Special attention should be called to the illustrations of appliances and the forms and tabulations included.

JAESCHKE, Emil. *Volksbibliotheken* (bücher- und lesehallen) ihre einrichtung und verwaltung. Leipzig, Göschen'sche Verlags-handlung, 1907. 180 p. 16°. (Sammlung Göschen.)

This useful, synoptic series now presents a volume on the organization and administration of German public libraries by the librarian of the Elberfeld Stadtbibliothek. While the little book is not so severely technical in style and contents as to be devoid of interest or comprehension to the lay reader, it is nevertheless more professional than popular and really serves as a brief outline of the essentials of administration for this distinct type of German library.

The *Theoretico-practical part* forms about one-third of the book, and treats of the topics which in America are commonly thought of as "organization," concluding with a chapter, "First steps in the starting of a public library," in which a minute account is given of the beginnings of the author's own library.

About two-thirds of the little volume are devoted to the *Technical part* under the obvious subdivisions Rooms and fittings; Purchase and preparation of books; Operation. Under the first of these are discussed division of rooms, rooms for administration, for circulation, for readers, with a chapter on the stock system.

The sections under Purchase and preparation of books describe in detail the accession

book (each Jan. 1 the accession number begins again at 1 preceded by last two figures of the date; only one accession number is given to each set), the shelf list (both "card" and "sheet" forms are mentioned, the author preferring the latter), classification (the Decimal Classification is not mentioned, the only plan described being one with letters for main classes, subdivided again by letters), shelf arrangement (contemplating a relative location), card and printed catalogs and the printing of bulletins of additions.

Under Operation is found discussion on Disposal of readers; Travelling libraries and a long chapter on Circulation, with paragraphs on Indicators, Disinfection, Statistics and a consideration of different loan systems.

In a concluding chapter the author summarizes the present condition of public libraries in Germany indicating lack of funds as the chief disadvantage against which they must contend. 20 to 25 pfennige (5-6 cents) per capita is all that is available for public library support, and as this will produce but \$1200 in a city of 20,000 (no more than one-fourth or one-fifth of what many American towns of like size annually spend) it is obviously too little to do any effective work in any but the very largest cities.

A stated property tax as in England and America is scarcely possible, as with the lack of information on and interest in public libraries, such a property tax would probably endanger the whole movement. After a statistical comparison of the resources and results of the public libraries of Boston and Berlin, the author quotes with little relish from Hugo Münsterberg, "The American public library is to its German counterpart as the Pullman express train is to the stage coach."

To create a vital public sentiment the author recommends a central bureau in charge of an experienced and tactful person, which should through statistical and hortatory publications and personal effort advance the cause of popular libraries.

The book is in easy German. A useful annotated bibliography is appended. There is an index and the most technical parts are helped by a few cuts of records and furniture.

J. I. W.

Library Economy and History

GENERAL

The *American Architect and Building News* of July 13 gives two pages of plans and elevations for the new Connecticut State Library, Hartford, Conn.

The *Brickbuilder* for June, 1907 (16:91-92) contains an editorial on the competition for the new building for the St. Louis Public Library. The statement at some length of the method of procedure followed at St. Louis should be of interest to librarians having building plans under consideration.

CARNEGIE LIBRARIES.—The reference to the "Carnegie Library views" as "Views of Carnegie libraries" in the September L. J. (p. 419), gave a wrong impression of the brochure recently issued by Messrs. Alden & Harlow, the Pittsburgh architects. The pamphlet is a reprint of illustrations from the *Builder*, Pittsburgh, and is given up entirely to exterior and interior views and floor-plans of the enlarged Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh.

GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS. In the Engineering Literature Supplement of the *Engineering News* of July 18 is an editorial on government publications and how they may be obtained.

Library Assistant for September has for leading articles a discussion of "Staff time sheets and routine books," by Philip C. Bursill, and a paper on "Local collections and the county collection," by William A. Peplow.

Library Association Record for August has a long critical paper on "Some canons of classification applied to the subject classification," by W. C. Berwick, Sayers, who deals with "the anatomy as distinguished from the physiology" of subject classification, especially of the last system from Mr. James Duff Brown—"a system which has been received with a burst of hurried enthusiasm by our own professional press, which has been flattered with gracefully and kindly by our courteous American brethren, and has been pooh-poohed by the English literary papers with that airy and decisive contempt which is the very effluence of ignorance." The writer considers that where Mr. Brown's scheme will score "is in its completeness, its careful indexing, its simplicity, and the ease with which it may be used," and he regrets that the personal equation enters so largely into a librarian's choice of classification instead of a scientific reason. "A standard uniform scheme has advantages, but carries with it the fatal curse of stagnation; indeed, as has been well said, uniformity is impossible among men who think at all." In conclusion he lays down some canons of classification which are reprinted elsewhere. Mr. Ernest A. Baker has "More hints to candidates" on the next examination in literary history. In the departments the net books agreement of English publishers is reprinted in full text. In the September number Alfred Lancaster discusses "Library statistics," suggesting that benefits to readers through the medium of good books "are incalculable and cannot be tabulated." Miss N. O'Brien treats of "Our juvenile readers," and T. E. Turnbull answers the query "Are news-rooms desirable in public libraries?" by suggesting that "there is no real need for an elaborate newsroom according to the old ideal" in English libraries, and that a *modus vivendi* such as at Islington, where only the most important newspapers are purchased and exhib-

ited on "slats" is the best solution of the problem.

THE current *Library World* contains a brief discussion of library lecture courses by Walter E. Rae, of Fulham; the second of Mr. James D. Stewart's papers on the Sheafe catalog, illustrated; and other articles of interest, notably in the department of Library Economics, an elaborate and valuable paper with illustrations on "Book-binding: orders and checking."

New York Libraries is the title of the new quarterly issued by the New York State Education Department in the interest of the libraries of the state, of which no. 1 of vol. 1 appears for October, 1907. This first number is a 32-page bulletin, following in general plan the bulletin of the Wisconsin and other state commissions, though on a somewhat larger scale; it contains brief editorial announcement of its purpose, as being "to maintain free communication with the libraries, to answer their inquiries and promote their efficiency;" and articles on "Principles of book selection," by Corinne Bacon; "What you can get out of a Henty book," by Caroline M. Hewins; "The first \$100 for reference books" and "Some useful New York state documents," by J. I. Wyer, Jr.; "First 100 books for the children's library," by Clara W. Hunt; "Simple methods," by Eleanor E. Ledbetter. There are also notes of library meetings, a report of the summer session of the New York State Library School, and an extended department of "News and notes of New York libraries." The bulletin as a whole is well edited, well printed, and should be extremely useful in its field; it is sent without cost to all libraries and members of library boards in the state.

Revista delle Biblioteche e degli Archivi for May-June, just at hand, includes papers on "Libraries for the use of the navy," giving statements of the number of books on each of the Italian warships, ranging from one book to 446; a report on booktrade catalogs presented at the fifth international congress of publishers, held at Milan last year; a description of the library of the Senate, and other articles.

TRENT, W. P. A talk to librarians. (*In Sewanee Review*, July, 1907. 15:297-315.)

This is the address delivered by Professor Trent before the American Library Association at the Asheville meeting.

Wisconsin Library Bulletin, July-August, contains good practical advice on picture bulletins, by Maud Durlin, and continues the excellent "Suggestions for anniversary and holiday bulletins" through September and October. As a supplement it contains two effective designs for Hallowe'en bulletin posters.

LOCAL

Abilene, Kan. Carnegie L. The contract has been let for the new Carnegie library, which will be completed in six months and will cost \$12,500. The women's clubs have arranged to furnish the books.

Adrian, Mich. Carnegie L. The Carnegie Library committee of the city council arranged the contract on Aug. 27 for the Carnegie Library, which will cost approximately \$25,000.

Alexandria, La. Carnegie L. The plans for the building have been accepted from Crosby & Kenkel, of New Orleans, and contract closed for its erection. The library will cost \$12,000, and will be constructed of stone-colored brick with red mortar and red tile roof, with a reading room 50 x 64 feet.

Augusta, Ga. Carnegie L. The new Carnegie library has come to a standstill for lack of funds, as the new law prohibiting the sale or manufacture of liquor has cut the revenue of the city at least \$40,000 and the appropriation has been withdrawn.

Baltimore, Md. Enoch Pratt F. L. The Walbrook branch (station no. 6) was moved into a new building on Sept. 3, the gift of Mr. Francis A. White, and Miss Maude Hazeltine was appointed librarian.

Bessemer, Ala. Carnegie L. The new library was thrown open to the public on Sept. 12, and Mayor Rush received the gift on behalf of the city. This institution is the result of efforts of five ladies of Bessemer, who saw the need of a library and secured the necessary funds.

Brooklyn (N. Y.) P. L. The library has issued two numbers of a fortnightly periodical, *Staff Notes*, a copy of which is distributed to each member of the force. It is issued in mimeographed sheets, and the compilation and preparation of each number is assigned in regular sequence to the different branches and departments of the library. Number 2, for Sept. 28, for instance, is edited by the Albany Heights branch. It contains a few lines of editorial comment, special notices, announcement of school debates and free lectures for which reference lists will be useful, an account of the plans for the new central building, record of staff appointments and changes, note of reference lists in course of preparation, and items of general library news.

Buffalo (N. Y.) P. L. The repairs to the library building are about completed, the rooms redecorated and the departments have had a general overhauling during the summer. The travelling libraries are ready for delivery and the picture collections are prepared for sending out to the schools. These

illustrate the different feature of the current lessons. For "Old home week" a special exhibit was arranged of interest to old Buffalonians, including copies of directories of 1828 to 1838, early histories, and copy of an invitation to a ball of the "Lincoln Wide-awakes."

Chester (Pa.) P. L. An addition of 1000 books has been brought out to the Ballard Carnegie Library which were formerly in the South Branch. A turnstile has been placed at the entrance to the stacks which automatically counts the number of borrowers, and the young people's department has been rearranged.

Cincinnati P. L. The library recently opened its Walnut Hills branch (the first of those provided in a gift from Carnegie), to take the place of two delivery stations. The interest felt in the new branch and the added attraction that the new building offered led to a large increase in circulation—the use of the branch in two months almost equalling that of the two stations during the preceding year.

Fordham College (N. Y.) L. The library of theological, historical and polemic works which has been one of the features of Woodstock College, Baltimore, Md., will be moved to the Fordham library, as the former institution will be made a part of Fordham, and a new building erected on the Southern Boulevard facing Bronx Park. This is the largest training school for its members that the Jesuit order has in the world, and at various times numbered among its teachers the most famous men of the order.

Fort Smith, Ark. Carnegie L. The new library was dedicated Sept. 21, and opened to the public for use.

Glens Falls, N. Y. Crandall F. L. (Rpt., 1906-07, in local press.) Added 750; total 10,700. Issued, home use 30,405 (fict. 26,134). New cards 1107; number using reading room 5840. Receipts \$2290.25. Expenses \$2097.99.

The report of the regents shows an increase in use of the library over last year, but with a higher percentage of fiction readers.

Georgia libraries. "Hand-book of the libraries of the state of Georgia, 1907," has been printed as a special bulletin of the Carnegie Library of Atlanta. It includes a tabulated statistical list of the 33 libraries in the state, a map showing situation of the 13 free public libraries in the state, 10 excellent illustrations of library buildings, statement of state laws at the State Library Commission as to the Georgia Library Association, organized in 1907, and detailed descriptive notes on the several libraries. There are now eight free public libraries in the state occupying their own building and three more buildings

in course of construction; of these nine are Carnegie buildings, for which Mr. Carnegie has given \$245,000. The handbook is excellently comprehensive and should do much to stimulate library development in Georgia and throughout the South.

Grand Rapids (Mich.) P. L. In connection with the West Michigan State Fair the library issued a leaflet describing the uses and contents of the library and a "few things to think about and remember." Some 9000 of these were distributed by those in charge of the library exhibit, which interested many visitors, and Librarian Ranck suggests that it might be worth while for other libraries to have such exhibits.

The total circulation for home use for 1906-1907 was 250,576, an increase of 22,257 over 1905-1906 (228,319), which figures were mistakenly given for those of 1906-1907 in the September LIBRARY JOURNAL.

Greeley, Colo. Normal School L. The new \$60,000 library building was opened Aug. 26 with appropriate ceremonies. The building is 100 x 80 feet, and includes offices for the librarian and assistants and at present contains 45,000 volumes, but with stack room for 200,000.

Greeley (Colo.) P. L. The library has received \$10 from 40 Japanese, who won this sum as a prize for their float representing life in Japan in the harvest day festival, and unanimously voted to give it to the library for the book fund.

Jamestown, N. Y. James Prendergast F. L. Free access to all the shelves is now granted to the public, alterations having been made in the building to permit this change. Since the opening of the children's room in January, 1907, the library has had the largest circulation in its history.

Ledyard Center, Ct. Bill L. The 40th annual meeting of the trustees was held Aug. 28. The treasurer's report showed that the Henry Bill library fund amounted to \$3749.46. Charles Bill book fund \$22.49, Gurdon Bill dinner fund \$52.74. In the treasury 60 cents. The librarian reports 3404 books. Issued 620, 142 people taking books, representing 54 families. In accordance with custom a holiday was observed and the annual dinner was served to the townspeople.

Library of Congress. GRADENWITZ, Alfred. Die elektrizität im betriebe einer amerikanischen bibliothek. (In Reclam's *Universum*, Aug. 29, 1907. p. 1137-1140.)

An interesting illustrated article on the use of electricity in the Library of Congress. Special reference is made to the book carrier between the library and the capitol.

McPherson, Kan. Carnegie L. of McPherson College.

The new library was dedicated on Sept. 10 with appropriate ceremony and an informal reception followed. Several thousand books are already on the stacks, besides the gift on exhibition of a set of steel engravings of famous works of art, sent by King Victor Emanuel.

Montezuma, Ga. Carnegie L. The Carnegie Library was opened Aug. 23, and an interesting program was rendered. The building cost \$10,000, and is located near the central depot.

New Bedford (Mass.) F. P. L. During the week of Sept. 2 the library placed on exhibition the collection of designs for a book plate of the library submitted in competition for a reward of \$50. The accepted design is by E. B. Bird, of Boston, and represents a female figure seated, holding an open book, with the masts of sailing vessels in the left background and the chimneys of cotton mills to the right, characteristic of New Bedford history.

New Brunswick (N. J.) F. P. L. (17th rpt.—year ending March 31, 1907.) Added 4182; total 23,293. Issued, home use 70,075 (fict. 47,482; juv. 11,543). New cards issued 584. Number of readers 23,250. Receipts \$5888.09; expenses \$5860.92.

The advance in library work which has been a noticeable feature of the last few years continues, and is especially true of the reference department. The most important event of the year was the gift of 10,408 volumes from the New Brunswick Free Circulating Library. The interest in the children's room increases and the good order prevailing has been a source of comment. There is a great demand for books in Italian and Hungarian, and the reading done by these people is of a very good class. The duplicate collection is now recognized as a branch of the library and serves the double purpose for which it was intended.

New York P. L. Another Carnegie branch library was opened at 228 East 23d street on Sept. 20. This building is the 24th of those erected from the Carnegie fund by the New York Public Library. It will furnish quarters for the Epiphany branch, formerly a part of the old Cathedral Library system, which consolidated with the New York Public Library in 1905. This branch was established about six years ago in East 22d street.

The new building has a frontage of 50 feet and a depth of about 70 feet. It has three stories and a basement, and resembles the other Carnegie buildings in Manhattan in general design. The basement is occupied by packing, boiler, work, and storage rooms. The main floor contains the circulation and reference rooms for adults. The second floor has the circulation and reading room for the use of children; also a retiring room for the

members of the staff. On the third floor is a reading room for magazines and periodicals, with exhibition wall cases. On this floor in the rear are the janitor's quarters.

The building is heated throughout with hot water on a combination of the direct and indirect systems and is lighted with electricity. It is furnished with two small elevators, one for the janitor's supplies, operated by hand, and the other for books, operated automatically by electricity, and the building, with its equipment cost about \$85,000, exclusive of the site, which was furnished by the city.

Several other Carnegie buildings are in various stages of construction. The next to be opened will be at 303 East 36th street.

New York State L. ("Statistical 88th" and 89th rpts. — years ending Sept. 30, 1905, 1906.) In general library 1905, 242,349, added 11,020, total 1906, 253,369; in law library 1905, 75,778, added 2789, total 1906, 78,567; together 1905, 318,127, added 13,809, total 331,936. The inclusion of 2308 in library school collection, 1685 in library for the blind, and 81,875 in travelling libraries brings the total for 1906 to 417,804 v., or, with "about 136,789 pm." makes a grand total of 554,593, inclusive of duplicates. There are also about 265,000 manuscripts. Duplicates, 1906, about 170,822 v. and 337,161 pm., largely state documents; these are housed mostly in an old, unheated malt house, where they cannot be handled. Appropriations, 1906, \$136,488; expenditures, \$129,750 (salaries \$73,269, books, etc., \$29,480, grants to libraries \$27,000).

The 89th annual report is by Mr. Anderson, covering nine months of his own and three months of the previous administration; the statistical report, published recently, is condensed from the voluminous final report of Mr. Dewey. Both present the usual tabulations and appendixes, including the annual list of printed bibliographies and lists of state library publications. The law providing for the new Educational Building is given in full in the 1906 report. During the past year all of the collections in the law library have been rearranged on the shelves.

A "separate" is made of the report on "Libraries in the state of New York," reprinted from the third annual education report; this includes two maps showing graphically by shaded lines number and circulation of books per 1000 of population in free lending libraries, compared by counties, 1906. The total of all libraries, public or limited reporting to the state in 1906, is given as 1266, with 8,890,485 v., including additions within the year of 552,292 v. and total circulation of 14,902,359; of these, 678 are free lending libraries, with 3,654,662 v., having 13,835,639 circulation, being 37,906 per day, 1715 per 1000 population, and 3.75 per volume. "The number of free public libraries is two and three-fourths times larger, their books are four

times as many, and their circulation six times as much as in 1892." 482 places of more than 300 population are without library privileges. Mr. Carnegie's generosity has provided for 30 library buildings within the state, in addition to the 65 branch libraries in New York City. Since 1892, \$302,698 has been paid to 395 libraries. A free library report from each of the 45 cities, totaling 5,700,675 population in 1905, shows a total of 2,499,408 v., with circulation of 11,741,573 v., with library taxation of \$1,025,086 in 1906, an average of 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ cents tax per volume of circulation.

Painesdale (Mich.) Memorial L. The board of managers' report for the months of July and August includes the number of baths taken in the free bathing houses maintained in the library building. The figures are: July — circulation 323; baths 300. August — circulation 362; baths 352; or a bath a book.

Peoria (Ill.) P. L. (27th rpt. — year ending May 31, 1907.) Added 4700; total 104,905. Issued, home use 191,600 (fict. 52.51 per cent.; juv. 25.44 per cent.). New cards issued 4029; total 8526. Receipts \$20,223.24. Expenses \$19,423.24 (salaries \$7216.85, books \$4103.78).

The membership shows only a gain of 41 over last year, but is still the largest in the history of the library, and it is pointed out that the cards are only good for two years, and therefore many non-active members are dropped yearly. "The comparatively high percentage of fiction issued is explained by the fact that few business men in Peoria use the library, many buy the more serious works for their own library, and hence the average reader goes to the public library for the highly advertised fiction which they care to read, but not to own." The 10 collections of books placed in schools farthest from the main library building issued 13,953 volumes. Mr. Willcox makes the note that the number of books circulated per attendant per annum in Peoria is 23,717, against only 4348 in Boston up to 14,738 in Los Angeles. He states: "Excepting my own I neither vouch for nor question these figures; let such estimates count for what they are worth, but we must remember there is much subsidiary work to be done in every library along with the issuing of books, and the older and larger the library the more deliberate and self-respecting its motions. Nor do I doubt there may be smaller libraries in our state that can make a better showing than any of us."

With reference as to how long does it take on the average to issue any book called for: In Boston according to a late report it takes 10 minutes; in Peoria, three in one minute. The report also contains comments on the "open shelf system" and interesting tables.

Philadelphia, Pa. Carnegie L. of Swarthmore College. The new library was dedi-

cated on Sept. 28, and is an addition to the group of classical structures of the college campus. The building cost \$50,000, is in pure Gothic style, made with granite from local quarries, with terra cotta trimmings, 112 x 63 feet, with a tower, 55 feet high, bearing a large clock. The first floor contains the main reading room, stack room, librarian's office, and six alcoves for private reading. The second floor has a balcony encircling the reading room, with catalog room and five offices.

Philadelphia F. L. (11th rpt. — year ending April, 1907.) Statistics of growth are given in the following way: "The number of volumes in the system last year was 277,361 and 19,797 pamphlets. This number has been increased and the volumes belonging to the library are divided amongst the several departments and branches, with a total of 310,630." Issued, home use 1,610,776. Readers' cards in actual use 139,040. Reading room visitors 845,206. Receipts \$178,481.22. Expenses \$176,578.19.

Of the 30 buildings proposed from Mr. Carnegie's gift, four are completed and opened, three are soon to be opened, cornerstones of two others have been laid, and foundations placed for the 10th. Negotiations for other sites are in progress, and so far Philadelphia has not had to pay for any sites, as eight have been gifts and two were city property. Mr. Thomson states: "A rather remarkable stress has been laid during the growth of the library movement both in the United States and Great Britain, on the number of volumes taken out from each particular building. To a great extent the number of volumes is but a misleading statistic. Books on music, for instance, are properly loaned for a month; each volume simply represents a unit. When a new book is published by some remarkable author great attention is called to it and there will be a great demand to read this particular book. Large numbers of readers are recorded and the number of volumes taken from the library represents accordingly a big number. Some libraries divide their fiction very closely so that by a stretch of classification 'fiction' can be put under some title such as 'applied arts,' 'humor,' etc., and then it is recorded that the proportion of fiction is very small as compared with some other library. The report of a neighborhood as to whether a library is doing good work or not is after all the real basis for judging of the good management and the value of a library."

The department for the blind is of increased importance, and 9829 volumes in raised letters were circulated. The department of travelling libraries maintained collections of books in 37 fire stations, 7 police stations, 5 telegraph offices, and 35 other places. The library has 17 branch buildings. The report

is illustrated with a number of photogravures of the branch library buildings.

The cornerstone of the new Carnegie branch library at Chestnut Hill was laid on Sept. 13, with simple ceremony, under the direction of the Christian Hall Library Association and the board of trustees.

Port Jervis (N. Y.) F. L. (Rpt. — year ending June 30, 1907.) Added 1062; total 15,102. Issued, home use 33,706. New cards issued 846; total 3000.

The circulation has increased 2899 volumes during the year, the figures showing an average circulation of over three books per capita yearly to every resident of Port Jervis. The number of borrowers' cards in use represents one to every three persons, and the reading generally is of a very high class with a small percentage of fiction. Collections of 100 books have been sent from time to time to the Y. M. C. A. and to scattered centers in order to reach those who were unable to visit the library building. A course of six lectures on evolution in the university extension system were delivered in the library hall and were fully attended.

Quincy (Ill.) P. L. (Rpt. — year ending May 31, 1907; in local press.) Added 309; total 34,530. Issued, home use 5636 (fict. 3730, juv. 950). New cards issued 89; total 8136. Number teachers' cards 247. Receipts \$8281.65. Expenses \$7360 (salaries \$3000, books \$1600).

Among new features was the purchase and exhibition of a rare collection of stuffed birds of the United States and lectures to children about them.

University of Illinois L. (30th rpt. — year ending April 30, 1907.) Added 8810; total 94,946. Issued, home use 34,774; library use 19,203. Expenses, for books \$18,830.30; periodicals \$3067. Number on staff 17. Periodicals taken 1224.

The report gives a survey of the library work and is issued in typewritten form only. Methods of purchasing books, especially foreign, are considered with the recommendation that an agent in New York be continued for new foreign books and second-hand books, but that a German agent be employed for out-of-print books. Among other things mentioned are the inspection shipments of books forwarded from the library's agents, by which the library and professors might choose new books by seeing them. The departmental libraries are inspected once a week, but four of the sixteen are in charge of special attendants. Access to the stacks has been restricted, but permits were issued to all the faculty, graduate students, and seniors, and all others were only allowed to enter the stack room upon request of the instructor. It is pointed out that the library needs \$90,000 at once, to place it on a par

with institutions of similar rank. The library is outclassed by 17 university libraries, but the university itself ranks fourth in number of instructors and sixth in students. \$35,000 annually was needed for books because of the wide range of instruction, the small number of additions until recently and the distance from other libraries making it necessary for it to be more complete in itself. More room is needed for all departments of the library, and especially for the library school, because the quarters are now temporary and inadequate, although it is said to rank second among the library schools of the world.

Vinalhaven, Me. Carnegie L. The new Carnegie library building was dedicated Aug. 13 with fitting ceremony. Mr. Carnegie gave \$5,200 and the remainder was subscribed locally. The building will be constructed of Vinalhaven granite and is of attractive design.

Washington, D. C. Columbus Memorial L. The plans for the new building of the International Bureau of American Republics, in which will be included the Columbus Memorial Library, have been approved by Secretary of State Root, and the successful competitors were Kelsey & Cref, of Philadelphia. The building will be erected at the corner of 17th and B streets, S. W., north of Potomac Park, and will be 160 feet square, constructed of steel and concrete and white marble trimmings. The library reading room will be 100 by 60 feet, and the stack room will provide for 250,000 volumes.

The cost of this Pan-American structure will be nearly \$1,000,000, of which Mr. Carnegie generously contributed \$750,000 and the different American nations approximately \$250,000.

Watervliet (N. Y.) P. L. The city of Watervliet has decided not to accept the offer of Mr. Carnegie of \$15,000, because there is no method by which to raise, legally, the 10 per cent., or \$1500, for maintenance, and it was not deemed advisable to raise the money by extra taxation.

FOREIGN

British Museum L. (Return—year ending March 31, 1907.) The total number of visits to the museum were 691,950, a falling off of nearly 122,000 since the last return. There were 212,997 visits to the reading room and 55,513 to the special departments. The newspaper room received 2000 less, and only 800 more in the manuscript room. The return states: "It is a matter for regret that a further decline in the number of visits has to be recorded . . . at the same time it is an indication of a steady growth of intelligent interest in the collections that, while the number of visits decrease, the sale of guide books generally tends to increase." Plans are proposed for an extension to the building to occupy the site of present houses on the

north, east and west sides of the museum. The accessions number 28,498 volumes, 64,977 parts of volumes, 1793 maps, 7483 musical publications, and 3300 newspapers. The newspapers comprise 216,650 single numbers, of which 1148 were published in London and its suburbs, 1626 in other parts of England, 285 in Scotland, and 241 in Ireland, besides 35,886 numbers of colonial and foreign newspapers. The library added 246 incunabula of special interest and value. The department of manuscripts added 193 mss., 5 Egerton mss., 73 charters and rolls, 40 detached seals and casts, and 235 papyri. The department of Oriental books and manuscripts added 2204, of which 218 were mss. The total number of prints acquired were 4176 of the Italian, French and German school.

British Museum. THOMPSON, Sir E. Maunde. (In *Cornhill Magazine*, September, 1907. p. 312-324.)

An historical account of the development of the present reading room in the British Museum, beginning with the reading room of 20 chairs which satisfied the demands of 1759.

City of Mexico, Mex. The new Workman's Library was opened in August and is the first of its kind in the Republic, besides being the first public library on so extensive a scale. It is designed for the use of workmen and the poorer classes and the selection of books has been made with this end in view. The governors of several states have made liberal donations of books, periodicals and daily papers, and it promises to be popular and successful.

German libraries. JAHRBUCH DER DEUTSCHEN BIBLIOTHEKEN. Leipzig, Hartassowitz, 1907. 4+147 p. 8°.

Glasgow, Scotl. Baillie's Institution F. R. L. (20th rpt.—year 1906-1907.) Added 731; total 22,289. Issued 41,745 (fict. 1974, or 4.7 per cent.). Issued to ladies 2914. No. of readers 47,885.

In view of the fact that this library has for its object "To aid the self-culture of the operative classes in Glasgow" it is interesting to note above that only 4.7 per cent of fiction was issued, while "History, voyages and travel" came to 16.98 per cent., "Theology, philosophy, etc." 12.59, and "Science" 13.78. An unaccountable decrease in volumes issued to ladies is mentioned, of which a separate record is kept, and shows a loss of 905 lady readers, though the percentage of "Poetry and drama" issued was 13.50.

Leeds (Eng.) P. L. (10th rpt.—year ending March 31, 1907.) Added 7279; total 266,624. Issued, home use 1,430,719 (fict. 754,613, juv. 322,332). Number of borrowers' tickets issued 33,447. Number of visitors 2,649,612.

There has been a decrease in books issued, explained by the fact that there has been a considerable improvement in trade and industry, and consequently time for reading has been greatly lessened. A collection of books relating to the history of Leeds and Yorkshire has been purchased and placed on exhibition.

The various news rooms maintained by the library have been well patronized, especially by those seeking employment, who read the advertisements in the many newspapers. Five new branch buildings are to be opened at Bramley, Harehills, Hunslet, Burley, and the west Ward. The juvenile departments continue to increase in usefulness, and the aim is to create a desire for good reading on the part of the children.

Manchester, Eng. The John Rylands L. The library issued in August *Bulletin* number 5 of volume 1, and among the most important additions noted is the gift of a collection of examples of 15th century printing, numbering about 2500 pieces. In the purchases were 27 works printed before the year 1500, and a collection of 734 volumes consisting of grammars, texts and dictionaries, in the various Italian dialects. The library has printed a "Catalogue of an exhibition of Bibles illustrating the history of the English version from Wiclif to the present time," which was arranged in response to a very generally expressed desire to see a revival of the exhibition of English Bibles, including the personal copies of Queen Elizabeth, King James I., Elizabeth Fry, and the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone. A catalog of the books and broadsides illustrating the early history of printing, is also issued in connection with the visit of the Federation of Master Printers and allied trades. A brochure printed for private circulation gives a brief historical description of the library and its contents, with notes on the early printed book room, the Aldine room, the Bible room, the Greek and Latin classics and the Italian and English classics; it contains illustrations of the several rooms, the statue of John Rylands, the main staircase and East cloister, and provides visitors with a brief narrative of the institution, the most conspicuous of its literary treasures, and a short description of the building.

Scotch libraries. Mr. James Coats, the Paisley manufacturer, has recently established a number of free public libraries in the villages throughout the highlands, providing the books as well as the buildings, and at the same time employing a skilled oculist to travel from town to town and test the eyes of readers, and if found necessary supplying spectacles free of charge, which latter philanthropy, it is said, contributes no little towards making the libraries useful to a larger majority of the people.

Librarians

BAILEY, Louis J., B.L.S., New York State Library School, 1907, has been appointed to a position in the Copyright division of the Library of Congress.

BARNETT, Miss Claribel R., New York State Library School, class of 1895, has been promoted to succeed Miss Josephine A. Clark as librarian of the United States Department of Agriculture.

BISHOP, William Warner, has been appointed by Librarian Putnam to succeed David Hutcheson as superintendent of the reading room in the Library of Congress. The arrangement is provisional on both sides for a year by understanding with the Princeton authorities, but it is hoped that Mr. Bishop's health and his success at the new post will permit his permanent continuance in it. Mr. Bishop comes to this important position equipped by his experience as reference librarian of Princeton University Library and previously as librarian of the Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute.

BLANDY, Miss Julia W., of New York, has been appointed an assistant at the Los Angeles (Cal.) Public Library.

BUYNITZKY, Miss Eleanor, formerly in the District of Columbia Library, has been appointed assistant librarian of the Dallas (Texas) Public Library.

COFFIN, Miss Helen, New York State Library School, 1906-7, has been appointed assistant in the New York State Library.

COLE, Miss Bertha, formerly of the Seattle (Wash.) Public Library, has been appointed children's librarian at the Ballard Carnegie Library at Chester, Pa.

COULTER, Miss Edith Margaret, B.L.S., New York State Library School, 1907, has been appointed head cataloger in the Public Library, Berkeley, Cal.

DRURY, F. K. W., is acting librarian of the University of Illinois. He received his A.B. degree in 1898 from Rutgers and in 1905 was granted the master's degree. In June, 1905, he was graduated from the University of Illinois with the degree of B.L.S., and was promoted to the head of the order department in the library with the title of order librarian.

FIFIELD, Miss Winnifred F., New York State Library School, 1906-7, has been appointed assistant at Pomona College Library, Claremont, Cal.

HASSE, Miss Adelaide R. The *Literary Digest* for Aug. 3, in quoting the article on Miss Hasse's work and career from the New York *Evening Post*, gives a portrait by Hilda Hasse.

HAWKS, Miss Emma B., New York State Library School, 1893-94, has been appointed assistant librarian at the United States Department of Agriculture.

HEAD, Miss Idress, has been appointed librarian of the Missouri Historical Society, succeeding the late Miss Mary Louise Dalton. Miss Head was formerly a history teacher in the State Normal School at Cape Girardeau, Mo.

HEDRICK, Miss Ellen A., of the New York State Library School, 1903, and cataloger in the Library of Congress, has been appointed on the staff of the Yale University Library.

HISS, Miss Sophie K., B.L.S., New York State Library School, 1906, has resigned her position in the Catalog Section of the New York State Library to become assistant librarian at Smith College.

HOLT, Miss Alice Mackinnon, assistant librarian in the Ferguson Library, at Stamford, Conn., has resigned to accept a position with a publishing house in New York.

HUMPHREY, Miss Gertrude P., librarian of the Lansing (Mich.) P. L., has resigned that position, in which she is succeeded by Miss M. Louise Hunt, of the Drexel Institute Library, Philadelphia.

HOOKE, David Ashley, New York State Library School, 1906-7, has been appointed assistant in the Silas Bronson Library, Waterbury, Conn.

HYDE, Miss Sara Gardner, New York State Library School 1901, and chief cataloger of the U. S. Geological Survey Library, has been appointed on the Yale University library staff.

JENNINGS, Judson T., assistant to the director of the New York State Library at Albany, has been elected librarian of the Seattle (Wash.) Public Library, to succeed C. W. Smith, the present librarian, whose resignation took effect on Sept. 1, but who will remain until Mr. Jennings' arrival. Mr. Jennings' library training has been had in the New York State Library, where he began as a page eighteen years ago. His education was received in the Albany schools, in Union College, at Schenectady, and in the New York State Library. He was an assistant in the Union College Library while there, and was superintendent of the Carnegie Free Library and the Carnegie Club, at Duquesne, Pa., from 1903 to 1906. He organized the work of the latter institution. Last October he returned to New York to be assistant to Mr. Anderson, and it is from that position that he comes to the Seattle Library. His work in the New York State Library has included also some supervision of travelling and public libraries throughout the state.

JOHN, Miss Edith H., formerly children's librarian of the Greenpoint Branch of the Brooklyn Public Library, has been appointed librarian of the State Normal School at Millersville, Pa.

JOSLYN, Miss Rosamond, New York State Library School, 1906-7, has been appointed

children's assistant at the Prospect Branch of the Brooklyn Public Library.

KELLER, Miss Helen Rex, New York State Library School, 1901, has been appointed assistant librarian and instructor in the Library School, Drexel Institute. Miss Keller goes to her new position from the library of Colgate University.

KILDAL, Arne, B.L.S., New York State Library School, 1907, has been appointed assistant in the Library of Yale University.

KINSLEY, Miss Lydia, of the Wisconsin Library School, 1907, has been appointed assistant librarian of the State Normal School, Warrensburg, Mo.

KNOWLTON, Miss Julia C., B.L.S., New York State Library School, 1906, has resigned her position as assistant in the Milton (Mass.) Public Library to become assistant in Syracuse University Library and instructor in the Department of Library Economy.

MARQUAND, Miss Fanny E., New York State Library School, 1906-7, has been appointed cataloger in the Mt. Vernon (N. Y.) Public Library.

MATTHEWS, Miss M. Alice, librarian of the University of South Dakota, has been appointed assistant librarian of the George Washington University Library, in Washington, D. C.

MCCURDY, Robert Morrill, New York State Library School, 1903, has resigned the position of cataloger in the Gardner A. Sage Library, New Brunswick, N. J., to become head of the order department in the University of Illinois Library.

McKEE, Miss Alice D., New York State Library School, 1905, has resigned the librarianship of the Beatrice (Neb.) Public Library to become assistant in the Ohio State Library.

NERNEY, Miss May Childs, B.L.S., New York State Library School, class of 1905, has been appointed head of the Order Section of the New York State Library to succeed Mr. Nathaniel L. Goodrich. Since January, 1906, Miss Nerney has acted as assistant in the office of the director.

PUCHNO. The body of Miss Fannie Puchno, a member of the staff of the Astor branch of the New York Public Library, was found floating in the East River off the foot of Second street, Williamsburg, on Sept. 17. The young woman committed suicide by jumping from a ferryboat.

PRATHER, Miss Grace, B.A., '05, and member of the University of Texas library training class, '05-'06, has been appointed assistant in the University of Texas Library.

REEVES, Miss Bertha Butler, New York State Library School, 1906-7, has been ap-

pointed as assistant in cataloging and classification at Colgate University Library.

ROBINSON, Miss Elizabeth P., New York State Library Summer School, 1907, has been elected librarian of the Bronxville (N. Y.) Public Library.

RAUCH, Miss Louise, has been appointed assistant librarian in the Logansport (Ind.) Public Library. Miss Rauch had previously been connected with this library but had been absent on leave for some months.

SMITH, Miss Fannie M., New York State Library School, 1906-7, has been appointed children's assistant at the Saratoga Branch of the Brooklyn Public Library.

SMITH, Miss Faith Edith, New York State Library School, 1900, has resigned her position as librarian of the Sedalia (Mo.) Public Library to become assistant in the Training School for Children's Librarians at Pittsburg, Pa.

STEFFA, Miss Julia, B.L.S., New York State Library School, 1907, has been organizing the Public Library at San Mateo, Cal., during the summer, and at the opening of the school year will become acting librarian of Pomona College, Claremont, Cal.

STEVENS, Miss Alice, has been appointed librarian in the Logansport (Ind.) Public Library, succeeding Miss Elizabeth McCullough, resigned.

SWEET, Miss Louise, New York State Library School, 1906-7, has been appointed assistant in the Flower Memorial Library, Watertown, New York.

SWEM, Earl G., was appointed August 20 assistant librarian of the Virginia State Library, to succeed Edward S. Evans, resigned, and assumes his new duties this month. Mr. Swem was born in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and is 36 years old. He received his school training in his native city, and then entered Lafayette College, graduating in 1898. He began his library training as an assistant in the college library, then taking a course in library methods at Madison, Wis., under the direction of the State Library Commission. For the summer of 1899 he was assistant in the John Crerar Library, Chicago, and was then appointed cataloger and indexer in the library of the Superintendent of Documents in Washington. In September, 1901, he was appointed librarian of the Armour Institute, Chicago, returning in 1902 to the Library of Congress, as chief of the Catalog Division of the Copyright Office, from which position he is now resigning.

WATSON, William R., has been appointed librarian of the San Francisco Free Public Library to succeed George T. Clark, who resigned to become librarian of Stanford University. Mr. Watson is a graduate of the New York State Library School and entered

the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh in its early days, remaining nine years; he became assistant librarian of the California State Library two years ago, whence he comes to San Francisco. His present work calls for large responsibility and executive training, for in the next few years a central library must be created and a suitable building erected.

WILSON, Albert S. On the resignation of Miss Sharp from the dual position of head librarian of the University of Illinois and director of the state library school, it was decided by the authorities to separate the two offices, and accordingly during the summer President James appointed to the vacant directorship Albert S. Wilson, librarian of the Colorado State Normal School, at Greeley. Mr. Wilson is a University of Toronto A.B. of 1900. For six years he was connected with the University of Chicago, where he pursued graduate work and was also in charge of the Haskell Hall Library.

WRIGHT, Purd B., librarian of the St. Joseph (Mo.) Public Library, has been elected president of the Missouri State Library Commission.

Cataloging and Classification

DANA, John Cotton. Paragraphs and library book-lists. (*In The Printing Art*, September, 1907. 10:26-31.)

The gist of Mr. Dana's contention is summed up in the following paragraph:

"If I have not wasted words, then I have made plain my opinion that that book-list is best which follows most closely the style of plain reading matter; uses a clear type of a size proper to the size of the page, length of line, and character of paper adopted; prints things in the way in which the average reader expects to find them; uses white spaces to show breaks instead of boldface type, and clings closely to simplicity and legibility."

Six examples of library and publishers' book-lists are given.

JAMES, A. B. More about filing systems. (*In American Machinist*, Aug. 22, 1907. 30:253-254.) il.

The writer maintains that the greatest defect in most methods proposed for filing papers is that "they have been patterned after some library cataloging system. The requirements of the average working-reading mechanic are essentially different."

SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS. Monthly catalogue United States public documents. No. 151, July, 1907. Issued by the Superintendent of Documents. Washington, Gov. Printing Office, 1907. 40 p. O.

This issue, published within August, marks

a new departure in the "Monthly catalog," to which Superintendent Post calls attention in a prefatory note and on which he invites library criticism. The first issue of the "Monthly catalog" was that for January, 1905, and its form of entry by department as author was continued till in January, 1906 (no. 133), the issuing office was entered as author. In December, 1897 (no. 36) an index was included, and from February, 1900 (no. 62) semi-yearly cumulations, in June and November, and a yearly index, in December, became features. Also, the catalog came to include all government publications, including those unavailable to libraries. Mr. Post now points out that this inclusive and cumulative scheme goes beyond legislative authority and the staff possibilities of his office, necessitating serious delay, and the present number is therefore restricted to publications within the month of July which can be had from the Superintendent of Documents or else from the issuing office. This makes promptness possible. Mr. Post has also adopted subject in place of office entry, applying the scheme of the "Consolidated index" to the "Monthly catalog." While this has very great advantages, it results in considerable waste of space in the cross-references required. There is, of course, a crude classification in the character of the issuing office, as is recognized in many entries in this catalog. The "Consolidated index" will still include all government publications, whether obtainable or not. A new and useful feature in the "Monthly catalog" is the descriptive notes calling the attention of libraries to important government publications of the month.

UNITED STATES, War Department. Index-catalogue of the library of the Surgeon-General's Office, U. S. Army. Authors and subjects. 2d ser. v. 12, O-Periodicals. Washington, [Office of Superintendent of Documents,] 1907. 3+978 p. O.

Bibliography

AMERICAN PAINTERS. McSpadden, Jos. Walker. Famous painters of America. N. Y., Thomas Y. Crowell & Co., [1907.] c. 15+362 p. il. por. pls. O. Bibliography (6 p.).

ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA. Shakespeare, W.: [Complete works.] New variorum ed.; ed. by Horace Howard Furness. v. 15, Tragedy of Anthony and Cleopatra. Phil., Lipincott, 1907. c. 20+614 p. O. cl. List of books (6 p.).

BEST BOOKS. Library Association of the United Kingdom. Class list of best books

and annual of bibliography, 1906-1907. Published for the Library Association by the Library Supply Co. London, 1907. (4), 80 p. O.

The second separate issue of the annual list of the Library Association of the United Kingdom, containing close upon 1800 entries and provided with a full index. It is based on the Dewey classification and 19 divisions are treated by as many library authorities. The typography is excellent, except that advertisements are unpleasantly sandwiched in. The pamphlet is issued at the low price of 1s. 6d.

BOURGEOIS, The. Peirce, Walter Thompson. The bourgeois from Molière to Beaumarchais: the study of a dramatic type; a dissertation for degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Johns Hopkins University, 1906. Columbus, O., [Walter Thompson Peirce,] 1907. c. 88 p. O.

Bibliography (3 p.).

ENGLISH DRAMA. Chapman, George. All fools and The gentleman usher; ed. by T. Marc Parrott. Bost., Heath, 1907. c. 48+4-308 p. por. 16°, (Belles-lettres ser., Section 3, English drama.)

Bibliography (4 p.). Sources (2 p.).

ENGLISH DRAMA. Rowe, N. The fair penitent and Jane Shore; ed. by Sophie Chantal Hart. Bost., Heath, 1907. c. 3-255 p. por. 16°, (Belles-lettres ser., Section 3, English drama.)

Bibliography (8 p.).

FRENCH HISTORY. Stein, Henri (i.e., Frédéric Alexandre Henri). Bibliographie générale des cartulaires français ou relatifs à l'histoire de France. Paris, A. Picard et fils, 1907. xv, 627 p. 23cm. (Manuels de bibliographie historique. iv.)

GERMAN LOVE SONGS. Nicholson, Frank C., tr. Old German love songs; tr. from Minnesingers of the 12th to 14th centuries. Chic., University of Chicago Press, 1907. 60+196 p. O. Bibliographical notes (5 p.).

GREEK LITERATURE. Legrand, E. Bibliographie hellénique ou Description raisonnée des ouvrages publiés par des Grecs aux xv et xvi siècles. iv., by E. Legrand. Paris, Guilmoto, 1906. 42+397 p. 8°.

GYMNOSPERMS, North American. Penhallow, David Pearce. A manual of the North

American gymnosperms, exclusive of cycadales, but together with certain exotic specials. Bost., Ginn, 1907. c. 8+374 p. il. tables, diagrs., 8".

Bibliography (4 p.).

HEBREW INCUNABULA. Cohen, A. "Hebrew incunabula in Cambridge." (*In Jewish Quarterly Review*, July, 1907. 19:744-750.)

A bibliographical account of 35 Hebrew incunabula in the various libraries of Cambridge, 13 of them, however, being duplicates. The largest number of them are in the University Library, 19.

HOMERIC AGE. Seymour, T.: Day. Life in the Homeric age. N. Y., Macmillan, 1907. 16+704 p. il. pls. map, O.

Bibliography (4 p.).

JEWS. American-Jewish year-book, 5668; ed. by Henrietta Szold. [*Also*] Report of 19th year of Jewish Publication Society of America, 1907. c. 11+557+80 p. D. American-Jewish bibliography (17 p.).

KANSAS. Spring, Leverett Wilson. Kansas: the prelude to the war for the Union. Rev. ed. Bost., Houghton, Mifflin & Co., [1907.] c. 8+340 p. fold. map, 12", (American commonwealth ser.)

Bibliography (5 p.).

LAFAYETTE, Mme. de, [Arienne de Noailles.] Crawford, M. MacDermot. Mme. de Lafayette and her family. N. Y., Ja. Pott & Co., 1907. c. 9+358 p. il. pors. pls. facsim., O.

List of works consulted (3 p.).

LEE, Robert E. Bruce, Philip Alexander. Robert E. Lee. Phil., George W. Jacobs & Co., [1907.] c. 380 p. por. D. (American crisis biographies.)

Bibliography (2 p.).

LIGHT AND ELECTRICITY. The Croydon (Eng.) P. Ls. Readers' Index for September-October contains reading list no. 43, devoted to "Recent discoveries in light and electricity."

MEDIAEVAL SCHOOLS. Anderson, L. F. A study of mediæval schools and school work. (*In Pedagogical Seminary*, June, 1907. 14: 223-282.)

This article is followed by a bibliography of 74 titles.

N RAYS. Stradling, George Flowers. A resumé of the literature of the N Rays, the Physiological Ray, and the heavy emission, with a bibliography. (*In Journal of the*

Franklin Institute, Sept. 1, 1907. 164:177-199.)

This article is a concluding article of this resumé. The bibliography which is given with this includes 278 titles.

NAUTICAL AND NAVAL ART. List of works in the New York Public Library relating to nautical and naval art and science, navigation and seamanship, shipbuilding, etc. Part 4. (*In New York Public Library Bulletin*, September, 1907. p. 420-436.)

NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS. Die literatur über das Zeitungs- und Zeitschriftenwesen. Ein bibliographischer Versuch von Tony Kellen. Leipzig, Börsenblatt für den deutschen Buchhandel, Aug. 9, Aug. 10, Aug. 14, 1907.

NORWAY. Emery, Mabel Sarah. Norway through the stereoscope: notes on a journey through the land of Vikings; ed. by Julius E. Olson; introd. by Knute Nelson. N. Y., Underwood & Underwood, [1907.] c. 369 p. fold. maps, 12". Books to read (9 p.).

PLAYS AND GAMES IN EDUCATION. Johnson, G.: Ellsworth. Education by plays and games; introd. by G. Stanley Hall. Bost., Ginn, [1907.] c. 14+234 p. il. diagrs., D. Bibliography, classed under subjects (6 p.).

RABELAIS, François. Tilley, Arthur. François Rabelais. Phil., Lippincott, 1907. c. 388 p. por. D. Bibliography (6 p.).

RAILROADS. Library of Congress. A list of books, with references to periodicals, relating to railroads in their relation to the government and the public; comp. under the direction of A. P. C. Griffin. 2d issue, with select list of recent works relating to government regulation and government ownership of railroads. Wash., D. C., Gov. Printing Office, 1907. 131 p. Q.

A reprint of the 1904 list, with the addition of recent works relating to government regulation and government ownership and the continuation of periodical articles down to 1907.

SOCIALISM. Olin, Charles H. Socialism: presents in simple and interesting manner a complete idea of the doctrines taught by the best socialists. Phil., Penn Publishing Co., 1908, [1907.] c. '07. 168 p. sq. T. (Popular handbooks.)

List of socialistic works (10 p.).

Notes and Queries

THE CODES OF ALABAMA.—The Association Public Library of Mobile, Ala., is anxious to complete its collection of the codes of Alabama, and will be very grateful to any one having duplicates of the following, if they would give them to the library: Code of 1886; also H. Toulmin's Digest of 1807 and 1823; C. C. Clay's Digest, 1843; and G. W. Stone's Penal code, 1866.

EXAMINATION FOR CATALOGERS.—Under date of Sept. 30 Mr. W. Dawson Johnston, acting librarian of the Bureau of Education, announces that the United States Civil Service Commission will presently hold an examination for catalogers, with a view to the selection of individuals to fill two vacancies in the staff of the library of the Bureau of Education. The positions to be filled are those of catalogers of serials, and the salaries attached to the two offices are \$900 and \$1000 respectively. Fuller particulars regarding places, time, and character of examination may be had upon application to the Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C.

SEVERANCE'S "GUIDE TO PERIODICALS."—The compiler wishes to express his appreciation of the favorable review and kindly criticism of his "Guide to periodicals," in the July number of the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*. He wishes also to call the reviewer's attention to the fact that the "Guide" is designed to include "serials" also, which was not quoted as being in the title of the book. I understand that the "New York Tribune index" is an annual publication like the *World almanac*. If "Girls Friendly calendar" is published annually, it would make no difference, in my opinion, whether it was hung on the wall or laid away in a box. It would be a serial, although I did not intend to include wall calendars. Under the omissions, the reviewer cites *Four Track News*. This was purposely omitted, as the name has been changed to *Travel Magazine*. Other omissions, with one or two exceptions, are explained on the ground that the periodicals have not come to my attention. In the list of periodicals which the reviewer affirms have "been discontinued for some time" is the *Bookbuyer*, a copy of the June number of which is on my desk. It must have been "current" when the name was included in January, 1907. The *Literary Life* is given in Ayer & Son's American newspaper annual for 1907. "America" sans capital was an oversight, "Baptist," "Methodist," etc., were intentional. My authority is the latest L. C. printed cards. It is difficult to be accurate and easy to be mistaken, as the cases cited above readily show. There are many other defects not noted by the reviewer.

The compiler would appreciate the favor if every library which publishes a periodical or serial would send him a sample copy. He

would also be grateful to any one who would send him the names and addresses of new magazines or changes in the title, publisher, subscription price, etc., of those already in the "Guide." The aim is to make a better guide, for the accomplishment of which co-operation is desirable.

H. O. SEVERANCE.

[It was not clear to the reviewer that Mr. Severance intended to include in his index such serials as annuals, almanacs, etc., and wall calendars, and the latter still seem rather outside the natural limits of such a work. The *Bookbuyer* in its present form is simply an advertising leaflet, the magazine having been discontinued, as stated, some time ago. The various omissions noted were mentioned with the purpose of calling them to the compiler's attention for possible inclusion in a revised edition. — THE REVIEWER.]

Humors and Blunders

THE SHAKESPEARE PRESS.—The following letter is self-explanatory:

WESTFIELD, UNION COUNTY, N. J., Sept. 3, 1907.
Editor *Library Journal* or R. R. Bowker.

We note editorial in your July issue, but are unable to accept your apology, though we don't wonder that you are ashamed of yourselves.

The matter has been for some weeks in the hands of our lawyers, and we don't even know whether the summons have been served.

If your publication was of the slightest use to libraries you would have long since stated that this whole business is started by Koch in revenge for having failed to bully us into giving him under the name of "George Wahr" (or Wahr) an alleged news agent in Ann Arbor a commission on periodicals subscribed for directly by the Library of Michigan University (which Koch disgraces, though that is none of our business).

If you yourselves in any of your several capacities or incapacities—as editors of the *Publishers' Weekly* or otherwise—are also trying to run our business, why God be with you! you won't succeed and your movements are of complete indifference to us.

Yours respectfully,

THE SHAKESPEARE PRESS.

THE Indianapolis, Ind., *Star* states that "young women applicants for positions in the state library should be required to state in their qualifications that they have no matrimonial prospects."

THERE was a knock at the front door and the wagon from the public library delivered the daily quota of books. "You kids don't know what hardships are," declared the elderly uncle. "When I was a boy, back in 1907, I used to get up at nine o'clock in the morning and walk six blocks to get a book from a Carnegie library." — *Louisville (Ky.) Courier-Journal*.

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No. 14. INKUNABELKUNDE (395 titles).

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We solicit correspondence, and extend a cordial invitation to all interested in Free, Public, School, Circulating, or Private Libraries to visit our mammoth establishment.

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REFERENCES (by special permission of the librarians): Library of Congress (Washington, D. C.), Harvard University Library (Cambridge, Mass.), the Newberry Library (Chicago, Ill.), Chicago Public Library (Chicago, Ill.), University of Chicago Press (Chicago, Ill.), Princeton University Library (Princeton, N. J.), Cleveland Public Library (Cleveland, Ohio), Library University of California (Berkeley, Cal.), University of Cincinnati Library (Cincinnati, Ohio), Johns Hopkins University Library (Baltimore, Md.), Library Catholic University (Washington, D. C.), Library Brown University (Providence, R. I.), Library Association of the Bar (New York), Library University of Oregon (Eugene, Oregon), Library Adelbert College Western Reserve University (Cleveland, O.), Library Boston Athenæum (Boston, Mass.), Bowdoin College Library (Brunswick, Maine), Hebrew Union College Library (Cincinnati, O.), Kenyon College Library (Gambier, O.), Library University of Tennessee (Knoxville, Tenn.), Oberlin College Library (Oberlin, O.), Library Washington University (St. Louis, Mo.), Library University of Wisconsin (Madison, Wis.), Watkinson Library (Hartford, Conn.), Trinity College Library (Durham, N. C.).

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